Daily Report

Latin America

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Parlatino Assembly Concludes, Creates New Commissions

PY2007152193 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1735 GMT 18 Jul 93

[Text] Sao Paulo (Brazil), 18 Jul (EFE)—The Cuban law on health and the Chilean law on social security will be models for the other Latin American countries, according to the decisions adopted by the 14th regular General Assembly of the Latin American Parliament [Parlatino] which concluded early today, 18 July, in this city.

After the 157 deputies and senators of the 22 countries that make up the regional integration organization voted overwhelmingly for the reelection of the current Parlatino board members, the Assembly decided to entrust Cuban and Chilean deputies with the health and social security commissions respectively.

The Parlatino General Assembly, which has met every two years since the creation of the organization in 1964, was held for the first time in the city of Sao Paulo, where the permanent headquarters of the organization was dedicated on 17 July. Present at the ceremony were 13 Ibero-American presidents.

Upon designating the presidencies of the 13 permanent and three special commissions into which the Parlatino is divided, the participants in the Assembly decided in an unprecedented move to break up the commission on "Health, Labor, and Social Security."

Its division into two commissions responded to the wish to entrust Cuba with work on health, and Chile with work on social security issues.

In this way the parliament members wanted to recognize the progress achieved in each of the two countries, which have almost converse models of development in these two vital areas.

Approximately 800 deputies and senators from all the countries of the region work in the permanent and special commissions.

The members of the commissions discuss regulations that can be adopted for all Latin American countries, and after issuing draft laws submit their conclusions to the Parlatino board, so that later they can be voted on in all the congresses that make up the organization.

In the General Assembly the parliament members decided to create two new working commissions: the Social Debt Commission, the leadership of which was entrusted to Venezuela, and the Municipal Matters Commission, which will be headed by Argentina.

By request of Salvadoran Deputy Ruben Zamora, candidate of the Democratic Convergence for President of the Republic, the vice presidency of the municipal matters was entrusted to El Salvador.

In his report to the Assembly, Argentine Senator Luis Rubeo, secretary of the Parlatino Permanent Commissions, reported that 85 percent of the organization's commissions have already finished their process of constitution and are working at full capacity.

The only commissions which are not yet deliberating, according to Rubeo's report, are those of Economy, Agriculture and Livestock; and the special commission in charge of controlling the manufacturing of and trafficking in weapons, the creation of which was proposed by Colombian congressmen.

Ibero-American Legislators Urge Castro Resignation

PY2007181593 Montevideo EL PAIS in Spanish 15 Jul 93 p 9

[All quotation marks as published]

[Text] According to a Cuban-American Foundation [Fundacion Cubana-Americana] communique released by "Cultural Flashes" ["Flashes Culturales"], more than 300 Ibero-American and Spanish legislators have already signed an open letter to Fidel Castro that will be disclosed worldwide during the opening of the Third Ibero-American Summit of chiefs of state and government in Salvador (Brazil). The text of the letter follows:

"We, the undersigned, are congressmen from Latin America, Spain, and the Caribbean. We are from various political movements and freely discuss rights and duties in our respective congresses. In our congresses we present criteria and opinions with reasonable success, enjoying full respect and liberty. Today we fully agree on the necessity to ask you to promote a democratic opening that will restore to the Cuban people the freedoms and rights that have disappeared under your government."

"For 34 years you have been imposing an individualist government representing an obsolete system that has failed everywhere and has submerged the Cuban nation into misery. It represents a repressive system that has nullified the development opportunities for an entire nation, whose citizens think only of escaping that island where your all-embracing will prevails. Thousands have died in this effort. Thousands have been killed by firing squad. Thousands have served up to 30-year prison terms simply for having disagreed with your imperative will."

"The collapse of the Soviet bloc, with its unsuccessful economic- political system and its totalitarian repression, generated as a logical consequence a spirit of liberty that nowadays gives hopes for a beautiful future for millions of human beings—with the exception of Cubans. As they suffer under your rule, Cuban families are further disintegrating; terror and repression are increasing; the economic and social collapse is increasing; and medicine and a basic food supply for Cubans' most elemental subsistence are increasingly in short supply."

"Heed our call with regard to the somber reality of your people's needs. Resign. Open the democratic paths of recovery for your people. Give way to a transition government formed by all sectors, including those who are currently supporting you, to replace you, and call for immediate, free and pluralist elections with broad international support. All this under warmhearted guarantees and an absolute respect for human rights, which will prevent bloody clashes and pave the way for national reconciliation."

Promote a democratic opening that will free political prisoners, allow the peaceful return of Cubans living in exile, and end your revolutionary activity that nowadays is based on violence and terror alone. Resign! Close your term with a gesture of true courage and generosity, giving the new generations of Cubans the opportunity of choosing their future, of experiencing true liberty. Resign!

Castro Meeting With Solidarity Groups

FL2007020593

[Editorial Report] Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish at 0030 GMT on 20 July begins broadcast of the meeting between Cuban President Fidel Castro and solidarity groups at the (Otton Palace) in Bahia, Brazil on 18 July.

Castro begins by expressing his appreciation for the solidarity he experienced in Brazil. He compares it to Madrid and Barcelona where many "worms" had organized anti-Cuba demonstrations. He says that he enjoys the anti-Cuba demonstrations because there is nothing he enjoys more than a challenge. He adds that because of honor, he will not change course.

He notes that when he visited Chile mercenaries used guns camouflaged as cameras, which explains why now, when he moves, he does not do so freely. His comrades in Cuba even try to prevent him from leaving because of the risk to his life. Nonetheless, he feels it is important to attend these summits because of the contacts he makes.

He says that the prevalent philosophy among Latin American leaders is neoliberalism, but he is grateful that the topic this time was social development. He notes that when the United States is short of money, they either close hospitals and schools or they simply print more money. But still they have the greates budget deficit in the world.

Castro refers to the poverty and illiteracy of Latin America, and how the United States expresses constant optimism, hiding the negative parts of life. He claims that during the time of slavery, slaveowners treated slaves better than capitalism treats workers. The current problems in Latin America, he says, are to be blamed on neoliberalism, and its father, capitalism. The Yankees, he says, were not happy that Cuba was attending this summit.

He notes this is the first time Latin American countries are meeting without anyone's permission. He reiterates his earlier sentiment that the only way Latin America will be able to survive is to become, through integration, one of the political, economic giants. He mentions the need for Latin America to democratize. He adds that the United Nations needs to democratize. There needs to be representatives from Latin America and Asia on the Security Council.

He says that the U.S. wants to rule the world without the consent of the UN General Assembly. He says they are intervening in all parts of the world, bombing the Somalian people in the name of humanitarian aid. This, he says, could happen anywhere, which is why Latin American countries need to band together. He notes the strength of mixed races. He again mentions the need to become an economic giant on par with the United States, Europe, or Japan. The fact that social problems were discussed at the summit is, however, a good start.

He mentions social problems of Europe and the United States, and that the U.S. Administration wanted to make changes, but has met with opposition from the neoliberalists, and therefore cannot.

He mentions the crumbling of the Soviet bloc, and the resultant difficult times for Cuba. Because of this, Cuba has had to open its doors to foreign investment. Cuba is, however, trying to save the Revolution despite the blockade which, he says, is Cuba's main obstacle to development. Cuba, however, he says, will not be destroyed.

He notes that while Cuba is accused of human rights violations, the irony is that no country has saved as many lives as Cuba, both domestically and abroad, through its medical personnel and its soldiers who have helped other countries win independence.

He notes that today is a significant day because of all the solidarity expressed toward Cuba. Those present, he says, represent all of Brazil, of Latin America, the peoples of the world. He ends with Victory or Death.

President Fujimori Holds News Conference

PY2007154593 LA REPUBLICA in Spanish
15 Jul 93 pp 2-3

[By special correspondent Cesar Teran Vega]

[Excerpts] Salvador, 14 Jul—Speaking to foreign journalists, President Alberto Fujimori did not rule out here the possibility of "death squads" at work within the Peruvian Armed Forces, but said that in this case they would be "minor leftovers."

He added that the "Fujimorization" that is mentioned in Latin America "is not an export product," even if "it worked" in Peru.

Even though he did not outline the Peruvian position at the Ibero-American Summit, he said in relation with the

democratization of Cuba that he does not support the U.S. embargo against that country.

Concerning Shining Path leader Abimael Guzman, he said that if he had a pistol "he would send Guzman to hell" because "people like him should disappear from the earth."

During a news conference that lasted for more than two hours, the president reaffirmed that the government fights terrorism permanently with scrupulous respect for human rights.

He said that on the other hand Shining Path, despite its overwhelming defeats, continues to be the most terrible human rights violator in Peru.

In this regard he recalled that a few days ago, in a locality far from Lima, a terrorist gang murdered an entire family, including several children, with machetes.

Within the framework of the major international forum taking place in this city, the Peruvian president was more receptive and open to criticism of his government over the thorny human rights issue.

Patiently, and at times even with good-humored witticisms, Fujimori answered a large number of questions from some 100 journalists from various countries.

The president hosted the conference, shortly after arriving in this city, in the large conference hall of the Meridien Hotel at which he is staying.

Fujimori arrived at the airport of this hospitable Atlantic city in an FAP [Peruvian Air Force] DC-10 shortly before 1500 (1300 Lima time). He was accompanied by an official entourage that includes Justice Minister Fernando Vega Santa Gadea.

Foreign Minister Oscar de la Puente Raygada had arrived a few days before. [passage omitted]

Fujimori's arrival awakened great expectations among foreign journalists. Some of them had even speculated that the Peruvian president might suspend his trip.

The reason for this speculation was the anti-Fujimori statements that Brazilian President Itamar Franco had made in Brasilia on the previous day.

When Fujimori arrived in this city, he noticed this atmosphere and decided to meet with the journalists as soon as possible.

He tried to minimize the criticism by President Franco. A European journalist, however, told him without hesitation that Franco had said that pro-Fujimori people are "retrograde and mediocre."

"Do you feel these words alluded to you?" the journalist asked him.

Fujimori smiled. He had previously said that if President Franco had actually made that criticism, "I would have then been even more interested in coming here."

He replied: "The evaluation of the Peruvian process is not made by me or by anyone else, but by the people."

After noting that there are excellent relations between Peru and Brazil, Fujimori said that "at no time had I thought of not coming to the presidential summit."

The president minimized the remarks by President Franco, who denied that his government was undergoing a process of "Fujimorization," and who noted that "fortunately, few people are in favor of an authoritarian regime."

The Brazilian president said that "only retrograde and mediocre people are not used to the democratic regime."

In reference to the alleged international repercussions of his government style, Fujimori said:

"It is not precisely an export product," he laughingly said, but noted that the measures enforced on 5 April 1992 in Peru "are a true example of how to put an end to corruption and terrorism."

With a challenging, stern countenance he said that he had given a "Tajami blow" (a blow with a sharp Japanese spade).

He wondered: "In only 15 months, what happened to the MRTA [Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement] and to the Shining Path? What happened to inflation?"

In another part of his controversial news conference, another journalist asked him: What do you think of the report by General Robles, who said that in the Army there are several death squads that are operating from the National Intelligence Service?

Fujimori replied: "He has provided absolutely no evidence. I cannot deny it, either. Although it won't be something very big, there could be some cases, as there were during the previous 12 years, because the government's initial reaction has been repression, violence against violence, and there could be some leftovers, which I am trying to eliminate."

Fujimori declined to give an opinion on a controversy that arose in Lima over the discovery of four graves with burned ashes in Cieneguilla.

He said he prefers to let the investigations continue, avoiding hasty remarks. He said, however, that he cannot doubt the honesty and responsibility of Dincote [National Counterterrorism Directorate] in its fight against subversion and terrorism.

The Peruvian president did not attend the second Ibero-American summit, which was held in Madrid last year, because of the intensive criticism that his self-coup caused among the other Latin American governments.

The president said that "Fujimorization failed in Guatemala because it was wrongly implemented," but he did not give details on the factors that would have been necessary for Serrano's self-coup to succeed.

Concerning the possibility of immediately running for reelection, he replied: "I will be the president until 28 July 1995. I will at least complete the five-year term."

He also defended retired Captain Vladimiro Montesinos, a controversial adviser.

"Everyone believes that he is my adviser, but he is not my direct adviser. He is a high-ranking Intelligence Service official. Why does the opposition attach so much importance to him?" he wondered.

He reiterated that he is in favor of reestablishing the death penalty, and that he would have imposed it on Shining Path leader Abimael Guzman, who is serving a sentence of life in prison.

"If I had a pistol, and Abimael were in front of me, I would send him to hell. However, we will in no way violate the law," he said. "People like Abimael should disappear from the surface of the earth."

Cuba

Castro, Lage, Robaina Attend Sao Paulo Forum

FL2107021693 Havana Tele Rebelde and Cuba Vision Networks in Spanish 0000 GMT 21 Jul 93

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro attended a meeting with participants of the fourth meeting of the Sao Paulo Forum, who have already arrived in Cuba. The purpose of this meeting was to offer party and social organization leaders, who are members of the forum, an overview of Cuba's current situation. The explanation was presented by Carlos Lage, a member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Cuba. Cuban Foreign Minister Roberto Robaina was also present at the meeting.

The Sao Paulo forum was inaugurated in that Brazilian city in 1990 and has held annual meetings since then in Mexico and Nicaragua. The fourth meeting will begin tomorrow and will extend through 24 July. Eighty-four parties and social organizations of the continent will attend the forum, as well as observers from other parts of the world. The agenda of the meeting will cover the situation of Latin America and the Caribbean, the relations between the parties, social organizations, and states, as well as political education and communications.

Delegations Arrive

FL2007192393 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Excerpt] The first of the delegations that will be participating in the fourth gathering of the Sao Paulo Forum are already on Cuban soil. Among them is a large Mexican delegation headed by Cuahutemoc Cardenas, candidate for the presidency of Mexico for the Democratic Revolutionary Party. Already in Cuba are Leonel Gonzalez, member of the national leadership of El Salvador's FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front], and delegations of several different parties and organizations from Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Ecuador, and Guatemala. Representatives from Haiti, Martinique, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Uruguay, and Venezuela are [also] in Cuba. This fourth meeting of the Sao Paulo Forum begins tomorrow at the Convention Palace.

Observers and guests from Germany, Algeria, and India have already been our guests for a few hours, and expressions of solidarity with our people and its Revolution are heard repeatedly. Each new arrival comments.

Among the observers from other areas is Dr. Paul (de Bocque), executive secretary for the fund for support to the Third World at the Belgian Anti-Imperialist League, who today inaugurated an automated publications system at the headquarters of the Cuban Movement For Peace. The equipment constitutes a unit unique in Cuba, at a cost of over $10,200, and the fact that it has been placed at this institution is part of the Belgian organization's solidarity aid to Cuba. [passage omitted consisting of (de Bocque) statements regarding the "Cuba Shall Triumph" campaign underway in Belgium, promoted by the Anti-Imperialist League]

Daniel Ortega Arrives

FL2107023193 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra, secretary general of the Sandinista National Liberation Front, has just arrived at the head of the Nicaraguan delegation to the fourth Sao Paulo Forum, which will open tomorrow in Havana. At the airport, Ortega was greeted by Politburo member Jose Ramon Balaguer Cabrera. Ortega Saavedra underscored that this forum is a demonstration of the unity of the leftist groups of the continent. Furthermore, he added, Managua, Nicaragua, hosted the third forum and since then, they have achieved extraordinary progress. This forum in Havana is a demonstration of trust and solidarity with the Cuban Revolution. Ortega said that there are many events taking place in terms of the integration of the countries of the continent. At his arrival, the distinguished visitor also highlighted the compelling speech given by Fidel in Salvador de Bahia, a speech of universal importance.

Cuba's Robaina Assesses Relations, Ibero-American Summit

PY1907145293 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2213 GMT 18 Jul 93

[Text] Buenos Aires, 18 Jul (NA)—Cuban Foreign Relations Minister Roberto Robaina has stated that his country is interested in establishing "normal and smooth relations with Argentina." He nonetheless criticized President Menem for having withdrawn "within 48 hours" what he had said about "the feasibility of democracy [in Cuba] with Fidel" Castro in office.

Robaina said: "We are above some comments. I opted to disregard them and to react in a civilized manner. Notwithstanding this, there have been other recent statements: Menem has just said that there can be democracy with Fidel. One cannot waste much time assessing his statement because it could very well change 48 hours later."

Robaina told PAGINA 12 that he was "pleased" though "not satisfied" with the results of the Third Ibero-American Summit held in the city of Salvador, Bahia State, Brazil on 15-16 July.

Concerning the abortive meeting between Presidents Menem and Castro, Robaina said: "It was more speculation by journalists than a reality, as we never envisaged such a meeting."

"The time was not right for it. Given this situation, we decided that it would be advisable to discuss it elsewhere; and not just one subject, but rather many subjects," he added.

Robaina noted that the Cuban Government is interested in fixing a date for the possible meeting between both heads of state before the next Ibero-American Summit in Colombia next year.

Robaina flatly denied the possibility of effecting any changes in the Cuban Government that might entail "renouncing our principles at a time when our country is seriously threatened."

As for the possibility of a "political opening" in Cuba, Robaina explained that "it will be instituted insofar as the experience of other countries, like China, has proved that the implementation of an opening drive prompts a modification of the political structure."

Robaina commented on the U.S. stance on Cuba, remarking that "there is a less aggressive language," but "they do not go any further than that." He said that Clinton's administration "has priorities, and Latin America and Cuba are not uppermost on the list."

Commentary Conjectures on Destiny of the Revolution

FL2007231293 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 19 Jul 93

[Renato Recio commentary]

[Text] Maybe a dose of uncertainty, or of difficult questions that in essence have to do with the destiny of the Revolution, its possibilities for survival, and the forms and changes that Cuban society must assume in order to participate in the current context of international economic relations, could be adding to the everyday concerns that the Cuban people are facing under their current circumstances.

These concerns of the people with regard to the future of the Revolution are completely natural and must not necessarily be seen with a spirit of sadness and pessimism. These concerns are natural and intense because the Revolution is walking a complex, risky path. The majority of Cuban people cannot see any way of living that does not adjust to the model of realities and hopes that the revolutionary process has created. These concerns are natural because many Cubans had the idea that we had already won by beginning the Revolution. We thought that the country could dedicate itself completely to the peaceful perfection of social structures which should be perfectly stable and consecrated.

Today we realize that the Revolution had not completed its dynamic cycle. It had not exhausted its needs for change and movement. It is now that we more fully comprehend that the Cuban Revolution is a process that cannot be considered complete until it has confronted the fierceness of its antagonist par excellence, U.S. imperialism.

By saying this, I am not resorting to an ideological scheme. Cuba's history speaks for me. Cuba's history contains the answers that we need in this decisive time of the Revolution, when concern for the future is not only inevitable, but necessary and useful as well. History tells us that this Revolution effectively began on 10 October 1868, and that it will not conclude until the day when our national independence is no longer threatened or running the risk of being damaged or thwarted.

Without the Mambisa epic of 1868 and 1895, Cuba probably would have been another star on the U.S. flag. Without the struggle that began with the attack on the Moncada barracks, our country would today be a colony [apendice] infested with all the vices and degradations of a U.S. imperialist metropolis.

If today we were not willing to save the Revolution, we would lose all perspective as a nation and as an independent country. The Cuban Revolution will be saved if together, through the unity of the people, it is able to create conditions for a productive recovery and economic reactivation.

The Revolution will be saved if the country achieves a flexibility of life through its foreign trade and in its domestic economic organization. The Revolution will be saved if it assimilates and implements formulas that are capable of stimulating production and quality in its products with the rhythm of a world that imposes its values of fierce economic competition.

To save itself, our Revolution is required to make changes, which at the beginning could be traumatic and even incomprehensible to some sectors of the population.

Nevertheless, in Cuba, the economic opening is not walking the paths of improvisation, [word indistinct], and disorder. The necessary adaptations to insert ourselves into the current world economy, without losing our socialistic, humanistic perspective, are being made without precipitation or anxiety. The Cuban Revolution has the great fortune of being able to take on these inevitable changes and adaptations under the guidance of its historic command [jefatura] at a time when it has reached the apex of maturity and wisdom.

The Revolution also has a party that represents the Cuban nation and the undissolvable unity that will always exist between the libertarian struggle and the sacred goal of social justice. If today we have a need for creating economic mechanisms that in the past we did not consider ideal, we can be sure that, since the Revolution has had so many achievements, it is impossible for us to live without a high level of social justice and equality.

The destiny of our Revolution is to endure. The Revolution will be saved because it does not lose itself in wailing at the moment of decision between what is ideal and what is possible. It will save itself because the Cuban people will not confuse firmness with dogma; because we can tactically maneuver without losing sight of our strategic goals. The Revolution has the urgent duty to conserve itself and it can, because it has established

cherished realities for the people and because it has all the energy of the blood and all the light of the minds of the Cuban people with which to defend itself.

Rebelde Journalists Critique Aspects of Cuban Society

FL2007170993

[Editorial Report] Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish at 1155 GMT on 20 July carries a dialogue between the announcer, identified only as Joaquin, and a mobile unit team that, after cruising the city of Havana, criticizes instances of littering, which the team calls "social indiscipline." Giving examples of littering that renders the city uglier than it needs to be, even in the difficult economic situation, the reporter says this attitude is contagious and exacerbates the situation. He notes the negative effects on the population of the social indiscipline exhibited by various state enterprises such as factories and stores. "Stores at present have nothing, or very little, to offer; at least they could offer cleanliness and beauty," the reporter emphasizes.

The reporter claims this phenomenon began "in 1984 or 1985," with the return of the microbrigades. "They did all kinds of things they should not have done, to damage the city," he says, noting that the microbrigades worked very messily. He says government entities are often the first perpetrators of the social indiscipline some try to attribute to the population, and that when the government, through its different entities, fails to show social discipline, it loses the moral authority to demand discipline on the part of the population. He says says the state entities must set an example, that social discipline is for everyone, and that he will have more to say about this matter in the future.

Later in the same cast, agricultural expert Diosdado Maso criticizes what he calls wishful thinking [voluntarismo] as regards the economy. Maso says "wishful thinking regarding the economy is the economy's equivalent of AIDS," because economic matters are concrete things. Maso says the way people talk about cane recovery and other agricultural tasks should be changed: While such matters should indeed be discussed, the important thing is that those responsible for a particular matter—for example, cane recovery—replace talk with action. Maso says such people should go out and verify things, that anything less is mere wishful thinking; one could simply be fooling oneself into thinking work is being done when it is merely being talked about.

"We turn everything into a slogan," Maso complains, noting that when he interviews directors, they always talk about what they are going to do. This causes people to start adding, says Maso, "and if they add up everything he says we are going to grow, we show a harvest of 14 million tons of sugar! And that is not the way things really are!"

Maso says that while it is indeed necessary to report results, one must be very objective about what is reported.

Rebelde journalist Joaquin, agreeing, notes that reporters must be objective not only about economics but about everything they report. He adds that objectivity in reporting should be one of the discussion topics at the upcoming UPEC [Union of Cuban Journalists] congress.

Graduation of Nuclear Specialists and Technicians Noted

FL2007141893 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Professionals in nuclear energy and nuclear physics and bachelors of science in physics and radiochemistry constitute one of the first graduating classes at the Higher Institute of Nuclear Sciences and Technologies, created in 1987.

The new specialists join the over 1,000 mid- and higher-level graduates who have swelled the ranks of that important sphere's personnel over the last decade. It was pointed out in Havana that this figure is unprecedented in Cuba and even in many Third World countries. Part of this personnel graduated from the Higher Institute of Nuclear Sciences and Technologies, which originated in the University of Havana's faculty of the same name, while others were trained abroad. In addition, hundreds of mid-level technicians have obtained their training at the Cienfuegos Nuclear Electronics Polytechnic.

New Graduates To Work in Matanzas Sugar Industry

FL2007172793 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1400 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Matanzas Province's sugar industry will get 173 new university graduates who, as of September, will be working in its agroindustrial complexes and at the harvest. The main agreements adopted at the Fourth Congress of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution Assembly involved perfecting the organizational functioning and applying new work methods. This assembly was held in Jaguey Grande Municipality, Matanzas Province.

It was also announced that despite shortages, the members of the 19 April Tunnel and Cave Precontingent dug and lined over 100 meters under Jaguey Grande.

Cayman Islands

Cuban Refugees Object to Shelter in 'Tent City'

FL2007184293 Bridgetown CANA in English 1817 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Georgetown, Cayman Islands, July 20, CANA—The majority of the 60-plus Cuban refugees in the

Cayman Islands would rather take their chances back on the high seas to reach United States than be incarcerated in a government barbed wire encampment, one of the refugees has reported.

Ivan Candele Porro, an unofficial spokesperson for the refugees and one of two Cubans who flew a single-seat aircraft to the Cayman Islands earlier this year, said none of the Cubans wanted to go to "tent city."

Porro, who is seeking political asylum in the Caymans, said the others had told him, "they would rather go back in the boats they came in than be put up in tent city".

The tent city encampment will be ready for occupancy Wednesday. Once incarcerated, refugees will be permitted just one outside visit every two weeks and no social visits inside the compound, government announced last week.

"Put us back in our boats, give us food and we'll be on our way," said Noel Chano, one of the refugees.

"We don't want tent city. We just want to stay here and work and join the community or get help to continue our journey," said Chano. "We absolutely do not want to be put in a camp."

Refugees are currently living in government housing and have unrestricted movements around Grand Cayman Island.

Dominican Republic

* Human Rights: Prisoners Languish Without Sentencing

93CA0158A Santo Domingo EL NACIONAL in Spanish 13 Jun 93 p 18

[Article by Alberto Caminero: "Laws Violated in Connection With Preventive Detention"]

[Text] (First of two articles) More than 90 percent of all persons in preventive detention nationwide are being held in prison in violation of the laws that establish the presumption of innocence.

Rehabilitation of prisoners is an illusion that exists only in a proposed system for prison reform—a system that is nonetheless impracticable.

At La Preventiva and La Victoria prisons, the prisoners live a miserable existence between four walls, packed into crowded cells.

The preventive-detention prison in the suburb of Santa Fe has a capacity of 700 prisoners but currently houses 1,280. Ninety percent of these prisoners have not been convicted, and in many cases have not even been interrogated by a judge.

According to official statistics, there are more than 13,000 prisoners crowded into the nation's prisons, fewer than 1 percent (approximately 130 inmates) of whom have received definitive sentences. [figures as published]

The conditions under which the prisoners live have been criticized by the Senate, the Dominican Bar Association, the UN Human Rights Committee, and a former district attorney.

Approximately 20 prisoners at La Victoria prison have charged that violence and torture are practiced there.

These prisoners complain that the prison authorities disregard all their rights as citizens and human beings. They insist that some prisoners are beaten as often as three times a week.

Some inmates at La Victoria prison say they have lived for two and a half years in the cell called "Alaska," where even the sun's rays are denied to them.

Others have charged that in the cell known as "The Oven" they have no ventilation or even sunlight, while many prisoners are in very poor condition and suffer from infectious and contagious diseases. This prison has a capacity of 1,500 inmates and currently houses 3,500.

The inmates have written a letter in which they ask the authorities to investigate their accusations.

Interviews with inmates at La Preventiva prison reflect the state of frustration in which they live.

Victor de la Cruz has been a prisoner for three years and four months on the charge of fighting and association with criminals, despite the fact that he has never been convicted.

Sad-faced and somewhat fearfully, de la Cruz explains. "I had a minor problem with Major Hidalgo, and for that reason he put me in a top' [trompo] with a group of six robbers whom I did not even know. I had never done that sort of thing, but here, to be a criminal all you have to do is be stopped by the police. Once that happens to you, you are already a criminal."

Francisco Yapur said it is unfair that they have been neglected by the judicial authorities.

Yapur, who is about 35 years of age, tall and robust, complained that prisoners who cannot afford a lawyer do not have the good fortune to get their day in court.

He pointed out, however, that the prisoners are all human beings born of their mothers and therefore are entitled to receive justice. He says he was unjustly accused in a drug case.

Rafael Alcantara Fernandez, however, said only that he has been in prison for five years and two months and still has not had his day in court. He was overcome with indignation as he said his case has been rescheduled 75 times.

Fernandez's case is similar to that of his fellow inmate Manuel Antonio Soto Nunez, who claims to be unjustly accused of homicide. He says his case is assigned to the Sixth Criminal Court and has been rescheduled "a little over a hundred times." He explained that the person he alleges to be guilty of the crime for which he has been deprived of his freedom is walking the streets a free man: a situation which Soto Nunez attributes to the fact that he—Soto Nunez—has no money to solve his problem.

The case of Domingo Antonio Aquino is one of the most unusual. He is in prison without having committed any crime, merely because he visited La Preventiva prison to take food to his brother, who had been arrested by the Narcotics Bureau.

"When I went to the prison to take food to my brother," Aquino explained, "a guard asked me if I was the brother of the person imprisoned on narcotics charges. I said yes I was, whereupon they took me to the Narcotics Bureau for interrogation, and I have been here at La Preventiva for a year and two months now without ever having been involved with drugs."

The Best Prison

Contradicting the complaints of the prisoners to the effect that they are under many restrictions at the prison and do not receive medical attention or medicines, the warden at La Preventiva, Mrs. Gutierrez, said she believed it to be the best prison in the nation.

Ana Chalas Velazquez, a social worker, made similar statements. She insisted that the inmates are making progress under privileged conditions.

Both women agreed that the authorities at La Victoria prison are striving to make it a rehabilitation center, although they expressed the opinion that [not] everything is perfect.

La Preventiva has a court for playing basketball and volleyball; areas for weightlifting; recreation areas for playing dominoes and chess; a medical clinic; a school; and a Roman Catholic chapel.

There are also restaurants; supermarkets; flea markets; *paleteras* [meaning unknown]; and stands that sell oranges, managed by inmates who have no desire to leave La Victoria.

Bar Association

Dr. Franklin Garcia Fermin, president of the Bar Association of the Dominican Republic, believes that the conditions in the prisons are not adequate to enable the prisoners to be rehabilitated before their release and—on the contrary—tend to predispose them to criminal behavior.

"We have said that even the minimal conditions for human existence are absent," he added. "This is a violation of the Declaration of Universal Human Rights and human rights in general, and we therefore believe that the government should devote increased effort to solving this problem."

Garcia Fermin said it is necessary to amend Law 821 of the Code of Judicial Procedure, because if it is indeed true that the judges are not acting quickly to try these cases, more courts and additional judicial personnel will be required to deal with the situation.

"Given the deteriorated condition of the prisons in which the inmates live," he continued, "the authorities are in violation of prison rules and regulations."

The Senate

Senators Hector Rodriguez Pimentel and Antonio Mateo, respectively the chairmen of the upper house's Committee for Assistance to Prisoners Under Preventive Detention and Committee on Justice, agree that legislation is needed to strengthen the court system by creating additional examining magistrates' courts and criminal courts and thereby improving the administration of justice.

Pimentel expressed the belief that the function of the court system is distorted by the delays in the application of justice, because "justice delayed is justice denied."

He explained that when a prisoner is sentenced to penalties that are greater than those prescribed for his crime, he is thereby traumatized and his rehabilitation is made difficult.

Dr. Julio Ibarra Rios, the former district attorney of the Distrito Nacional, believes that there is no penitentiary system in our country, nor any policy for orienting the operation of prisons.

"Basically, what our penitentiary system does is instill pain, bitterness, and hatred in the prisoners," Ibarra Rios explained. "Instead of being rehabilitated, these prisoners become hardened criminals."

He said there is a roadblock in our criminal justice system and disclosed that many European countries—and civilized countries in general—are coming to realize that short prison sentences tend to corrupt those who receive them.

Haiti

Legislators To Elect New Offices 21 Jul

FL2107014193 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Italicized passages in Creole]

[Excerpts] The two offices in parliament are being reformed. The assembly of deputies is meeting on 21 July at 1300 GMT. It is meeting under the lead of a temporary office presided over by the most senior deputy, in view of the formation of a new office in

compliance with the pact signed in New York on 16 July by several Haitian political parties, ordering a six-month political truce in Haiti. A new office is also expected in the Senate this week. Edner Jean filed a report:

[Begin recording] First of all, the National Front For Change and Democracy, FNCD, and the constitutionalists are again going to attempt to find unity, to face the other camp which has been temporarily reduced by those elected in the contested 18 January elections. The legislators from this bloc expect a report from their delegation to sever the apple of discord—New York pact, which was not accepted by three representatives of the constitutionalist bloc.

Ysaac Garcon and Serge Jean-Louis, two FNCD deputies, expressed their desire to return to their seats, empty for about 20 months, although they have some reservations about provisions of the pact that concern the normalization of parliament. Their fear is that those elected in the contested 18 January elections might make a strong return for a possible indictment of President Aristide.

[First unidentified deputy]*The 18 January elected have been put temporarily aside, but soon after the ratification of the prime minister, they can return in strength. What is in their minds—indictment, first in the Chamber of Deputies, of President Aristide for crimes of high treason as they have been [word indistinct]?*

[Second unidentified deputy]*For us it was not a question of illegal elections. It was simply that foreign bodies needed to be put aside. We are in a negotiation period. If at the end of the negotiations, they have agreed on those people leaving, we have no problem with that. We are waiting for them, since we gave them a mandate to negotiate and the majority agreed to approve it. Then we can normalize parliament to allow the release of the country.*

[Jean] Pierre Simon Georges believes the FNCD legislators' fears are unfounded because this accord left a wide margin for maneuvers by President Aristide, to void all decisions made by the de facto governments that he deems illegal. The former president of the Alliance in the Chamber of Deputies points out that there is currently no political, judicial, or legislative authority to void the 18 January elections. According to Deputy Pierre Simon Georges, it is necessary to go to the next step of the Governors Island accord.

[Georges]*No one should put words in our mouths, nor into the mouths of the foreigners, nor into the mouths of the Alliance, nor of PANPRA. It was never a question of President Aristide's indictment. That is not the reason the 18 January elections have not been canceled. It is simply because there is no political, judicial, legislative, or executive authority that can nullify the 18 January elections. As I said before, the only provision that the Constitution offers in that sense is the conciliation commission. If we want to have strong institutions in this country, including the return of President Aristide, it is necessary to respect the institutions. If we want reasonable legislative and normal executive branches, all the country's institutions must be respected completely and allowed to carry out their mandates. Letting the conciliation committee solve [conflicts] as provided by the Constitution, demonstrates respect for national institutions.*

[Jean] This opinion is shared completely by Deputy Duly Brutus. The socialists are very satisfied with the New York accord. No heads have rolled. It is already a good thing, asserted Deputy Brutus, who calls for respect for the country's institutions. Regarding the political truce, the PANPRA legislator is ready to support the next prime minister following his ratification. [passage omitted]

This then is the situation in the Lower Chamber almost 72 hours after the accord among the political parties represented in parliament. In the Senate, on the contrary, the situation is not as clear. The senators of the Alliance still control matters in the upper chamber while their colleagues from the constitutionalist bloc did not even attend Parliament on 19 July. [end recording]

Joseph To Run for Chamber of Deputies Presidency Post

FL2007223693 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1030 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Report on interview with Deputy Antoine Joseph by Daly Valet on 20 July; place not given; live or recorded—italicized passages in Creole]

[Text] Everything is going very well in parliament. Antoine Joseph says he is no longer president of the lower chamber, ever since the signing of the New York pact. He is now dealing with everyday matters, according to statements he made to our colleague, Daly Valet. The assembly of deputies will meet on 21 July. It will be presided over by a provisional office, headed by the most senior member of the Chamber of Deputies for the purpose of electing a new office. Joseph intends to run for president of the Chamber of Deputies. He answers Daly Valet's questions.

[Begin recording] [Joseph] *What was discussed among the deputies present, what was already discussed in New York, was the three offices. We say the three offices because* Deputy Medard does not have an office. Almost all the members of his office have resigned. In these three offices—as well as that of President Medard—everybody must consider themselves resigning. Immediately after... [pauses] *an assembly will be held. The assembly will be conducted by a provisional office. As stipulated in the internal rules of the chamber, this is to be the most senior member among the deputies present, assisted by two secretaries who are younger. The two youngest deputies will act as secretaries of the assembly. Those forming the provisional office will hold elections for a definitive office. This office, to be elected, will be the definitive office. The president of that office, who will then be accepted by all*

*sectors and all political groups, will meet with President Aristide*to participate in the consultations for the choice of a prime minister.

[Valet] *When do you think the election of that office will take place? This week?*

[Joseph] Given that we are here, I am here as... [chuckles]—if you wish, with a pretty humorous remark—I am here to deal with everyday affairs. We have taken steps so this election can be held by 21 July. So tomorrow [21 July], within the Alliance [for Parliamentary Cohesion, ACP] and the Socialist Group [SG], the three ACP groups are going to meet individually to discuss first the configuration of the office, second the profile of the prime minister, and third the timetable.

We think we will hold the assembly on 21 July. By 22 July, there will be a very broad meeting in camera among all parliamentarians, again on the question of a prime minister. All groups will present their views in the hope that by 23 July, following consultations with the Senate, delegations—composed of the two presidents of the new office, the president of the Senate, the president of the Chamber of Deputies, and very likely, a secretary for each office—will leave Haiti, to find ourselves in Washington. We also hope we will be able to return on 25 July or, at the latest, on 26 July, to see if by 27 July we can begin procedures to set up the government. Then, there will be ratification of the new prime minister and a confidence vote concerning his statement of general policy, and that will be all.

[Valet] *Will you again be a candidate in the elections in the Chamber of Deputies? If so, do you think you will succeed?*

[Joseph] *I apparently have the support of many ACP deputies and enjoy great popularity within the SG and within the FNCD. Certainly, we will participate in the elections. We have no expectations. At this time, however, I am considering running for the post of president and I do have a certain optimism.*[end recording]

Parties Criticize Accord, Oppose Aristide Return

FL2107020193 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1600 GMT 20 July 93

[Excerpts] The reactions to the New York pact include those of the Mobilization For National Development, MDN, and the Haitian Christian Democratic Party, PDCH. These parties oppose any accord favoring the return of the ousted president. These parties, which were not present at the meeting in New York, severely criticized the accords signed in the United States for the purpose of solving the Haitian crisis. Professor Hubert De Ronceray considers as henchmen those who participate in the negotiations with the international community. Jean-Max Blanc filed a report:

[Begin recording in Creole] MDN leader Hubert De Ronceray asserted that the attitude of the party toward the return of President Aristide did not change. This position will not change, according to De Ronceray, so long as the party does not meet in congress to adopt a new position. De Ronceray added that the party adopted such a resolution in congress a long time ago when he had given instructions to its members to discuss the action to be taken during the period 1992 to 1995. The party's leader added that the party cannot adopt a position contrary to the one adopted in the last congress. However, despite the hostile position that the party shows toward the return of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide to Haiti, MDN is now just observing. Hubert de Ronceray, the party leader, thinks it is necessary for Haiti to meet with other countries, but he is concerned for several reasons. [passage omitted]

MDN is one of the political parties that did not receive an invitation last week to participate in the meeting held at UN headquarters in New York along with the other Haitian political men. The Assembly of Progressive National Democrats, RDNP, Leslie Manigat's party, was also omitted from the list. Besides MDN and RDNP, the Haitian Christian Democratic Party, PDCH, the late Sylvio Claude's party, did not receive an invitation. Joachin Pierre, who is now leading the party, thinks it is because the party is not an ally, not a collaborator; that is why they excluded it. Pierre asserted that PDCH has always been clear on its position. The party is against all negotiations aimed at the return of Jean-Betrand Aristide to power, for moral reasons. Although he would like the country to emerge from the sanctions that are destroying it, the party is not changing its decision. [passage omitted]

The politicians who participated in the meeting in New York began returning over the weekend. In the accord that they signed, they committed to urgently voting for a series of laws. These laws deal with the creation, organization, and running of the police force, amnesty for the author of the 30 September coup d'etat, and the elimination of all paramilitary forces. The document also provides for the political parties to facilitate the creation of the compensation committee for the coup d'etat victims. Another provision in the New York accord is that the 18 January elected legislators commit themselves to not sitting in parliament until the conciliation committee comes to a decision on their case.

While awaiting the next step, elections will be held in the Chamber of Deputies and Senate to choose a president for the Senate and a president for the Chamber of Deputies. [end recording]

Socialist Bloc Deputy: No Pressure To Sign Agreement

FL2007212393 Port-au-Prince Signal FM Radio in French 1030 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Excerpt] Laveaux Jean-Baptiste, vice president of the socialist bloc, who participated in the debate, asserts that he was not subjected to any pressure during the 14-17 July meeting. Laveaux Jean-Baptiste says, among other

things, that this was not the case for the National Front for Change and Democracy [FNCD] delegation and its allies. According to the vice president of the socialist bloc, who was one of the participants in this meeting, the FNCD and its allies were subjected to pressures to sign the agreement. Let us listen to Laveaux Jean-Baptiste at the microphone of Daly Valet.

[Begin recording, in Creole] [Jean-Baptiste] Personally, we can say we were not subjected to any pressure from anybody because our viewpoints, which were known even before we left Haiti, coincided with the content of the text.

[Valet] There is another problem. Did Mr. Caputo [rephrases] was there a moment when (?Caputo's people) said that this text is the position of the international community, take it or leave it?

[Jean-Baptiste] Well, that did not happen often. During a little meeting, we discussed with them.... I must tell you that the constitutionalist bloc, including the FNCD and its allies, and the presidential commission reached an agreement on the text, on the political truce. They wrote it—it was the commission that wrote it—and it was only afterwards, before they signed it, that they said that they would hold a consultation. It was after that, during the consultation, that two U.S. lawyers came—I do not know whether they were Americans, two white lawyers who accompanied them and who told them not to sign—but the international community had already agreed with the committees about the text, which had already been written.

Then, there was something else that could not be inserted in it because the other party would not agree. It was in this context that Caputo said that the international community agreed with what was written and that they would not [word indistinct]. It was a kind of pressure, but it was not... [pauses] but first of all, it does not mean that the international community came up with a position. However, the stance of the international community was the stance of... all the committees met and discussed the text... Then, the international community agreed with the text, which was produced and written by the committees that were part of the Haitian delegation. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Trinidad and Tobago

Carson Charles Launches New National Development Party

FL2107140393 Bridgetown CANA in English 2153 GMT 21 Jul 93

[Text] Port of Spain, Trinidad, July 20, CANA—The National Development Party (NDP) is the name of Trinidad and Tobago's newest political party. The party's political leader Dr. Carson Charles recently resigned from the opposition National Alliance for Reconstruction (NAR) after losing the leadership to Former Finance Minister Selby Wilson earlier this year.

Charles, a civil engineer who served as works and infrastructure minister in the former NAR government, said the decision to form the new party was taken by the Regional Development Programme, a community-based group which he formed to create jobs in the country.

"We have therefore communicated (on Tuesday) to the elections and boundaries commission, of the establishment of a political party as an arm for the programme of regional development.

"Simply, we are responding to the need for national development and the political party will be called the National Development Party," Charles told reporters.

Saying the NDP was not a splinter of the NAR, Charles told reporters the new party will give leadership to the population and offer a sense of direction to those who perceive no hope under the current leadership in the other five political parties in the country.

"Today we call you in a situation of crisis which clearly exists in Trinidad and Tobago at this time. I think the evidence on the news over the past several weeks suggests very clearly to those who are observing, that we are on the edge and some kind of intervention is needed if we are not to go over that edge," he said.

Charles said race relations in the country had deteriorated, while the economic situation was worsening and the increasing crime rate had compounded an already fragile situation in the country.

"There is no sense that those currently charged with the responsibility for providing leadership in the country are prepared to exercise that responsibility. There are many of us who feel we cannot simply sit by idly and allow the country to go down the drain and we (then) act on it when its too late," he said.

Salinas Comments on Close of Legislative Sessions

PA2107022493 Mexico City XHTV Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Report by Daniel Flores Meneses]

[Text] On the afternoon of 19 July, deputies and senators informed the president of the Republic of the closing of the legislature's ordinary sessions.

President Carlos Salinas de Gortari told senators and deputies belonging to the registered political parties that Mexicans want democratic advancement in these debates, without the imposition of ideas.

[Begin Salinas recording] The next legislative term should not one of stubborn party positions. Let us make it, based on the quality of our proposals and our democratic will, a moment for agreements and debates in which reason prevails. [end recording]

This is what the president told the senators and deputies who were gathered in the Carranza Room at Los Pinos Presidential Residence on the closing of the ordinary legislative sessions and the creation and installation of the Congress' Permanent Commission.

[Begin Salinas recording] Our task is not to impose ideas or force change but to gather from society, public opinion, and citizens their feelings and concerns, and to turn them into constitutional and legal changes. [end recording]

The legislators will need to discuss the Electoral Reform Bill during this special period. It contains, the president stated, the most important reforms proposed in the past few years.

Emilio M. Gonzalez, chairman of the Senate Grand Commission, and Mauricio Valdez, this month's Senate president, made statements at the ceremony. Also present were Maria de los Angeles Moreno, president of the Chamber of Deputies, and coordinators from the registered political parties.

Chinese Citizens Successfully Repatriated

PA2007160093 Mexico City Canal 13 Television Azteca Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Report by Gerardo Segura from Ensenada, Baja California]

[Text] The last group of Chinese citizens that arrived in Mexico in the early hours of 17 July were repatriated on 19 July. The 77 Chinese citizens left the Port of Ensenada, Baja California at 0800 [1400 GMT]. They traveled by land to Tijuana, where they boarded a plane back to their place of origin following their original route.

A Chinese citizen in delicate health will reportedly remain hospitalized in Ensenada for approximately one week and will later be repatriated.

Thus calm returns to Ensenada and the Tijuana International Airport.

Meanwhile, the ships (Toching), (Longse), and (Sing Lee), which transported the 659 Asian illegal aliens, remain under the control of the Mexican Navy in this port.

It should be noted that the repatriation of the Chinese illegal aliens, which was prompted by a humanitarian action of the Mexican Government, took place lawfully and in accordance with our country's regulations and international law.

The operation concluded successfully amid strong security, which guaranteed the safety of the Chinese immigrants at all times.

Authorities Say Waters Surrounding Betula Test Normal

PA2007175393 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1641 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Mexico City, 20 Jul (NOTIMEX)—Mexican authorities report that the quality of sea water around Lazaro Cardenas, Michoacan State, where the Norwegian ship Betula ran aground, remains within normal ranges.

Officials at the Fisheries and Social Development Secretariats reported that the situation remains under control, and measures have been adopted to prevent risks to the civilian population. The officials also said that medical centers in the area have not reported any cases of sulfuric acid burns among residents.

The Communications Secretariat announced that of the 9,163.15 tons of sulfuric acid in the ship when it entered the port, 4,434.68 tons remain in the Betula.

The Navy Secretariat announced that personnel from the Marine Environmental Protection Unit, which is assigned to the 16th Naval Zone and supported by the 6th and 20th Naval Zones, will remain on alert during operations to contain the hydrocarbon still in the oil tanker.

The secretariat reported that approximately 140 Mexican Navy members are taking a number of actions to guarantee the safety of maneuvers to rescue 270 tons of hydrocarbon in the tanks of the Betula, which ran aground 100 meters from the beach and 25 km west of Port Lazaro Cardenas.

The Navy Secretariat said experts from the General Directorate of Naval Oceanography have been testing samples of sea water at various depths near the ship since the accident first occurred. The tests are intended to detect alterations in acidity (PH), temperature, and dissolved oxygen, all of which have thus far remained within normal limits for Pacific Ocean coastal waters.

El Salvador

Finance Minister Mendez Mata Resigns

PA2107022093 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 21 Jul 93

[Excerpts] On 20 July, Finance Minister Rodolfo Mendez Mata tendered his resignation to President Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier. In his resignation letter, Mendez Mata told the president: I am sure you will understand how sad it is for me to resign from the post of finance minister with which you honored me on November 1991. Please accept my resignation, effective 20 July. [passage omitted]

The main reason for my resignation is to allow me to help as much as possible so that the next government will continue the efforts your administration began, Rodolfo Mendez Mata added in his letter. [passage omitted]

Public Employees Strike at Leading Offices, Ministries

PA2007021893 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1546 GMT 19 Jul 93

[Text] San Jose, 19 Jul (NOTIMEX)—On 19 July the country's major public employees union began a two-day general strike to demand the government implement an equitable salary policy.

Albino Rojas, secretary general of the National Association of Public Employees (ANEP), said public institutions and services will be seriously impaired by the strike. The strike is to last two days, according to the Permanent Workers' Council, ANEP, and the Costa Rican Teachers Union (SEC).

SEC Youth Secretary Cascante Araya noted the goal of the strike is to paralyze the country's major education centers.

Cascante charged that Legislative Assembly deputies will grant themselves a monthly pay increase of 75,000 colones ($550), while public employees were only granted a 5 percent increase.

He added that the basic food basket costs 58,412 colones ($418), not counting housing or transportation, while most teachers earn only 46,000 colones ($328).

Workers are demanding a 24 percent wage increase and a salary policy in line with the cost of living.

According to the unions, airports, banks, and piers at the Puntarenas ports on the Pacific and in Limon on the Atlantic will be affected.

The strike will also affect the Public Works, Justice, Health, Finance, Government and Public Security, and Labor Ministries.

The strikes will include leading institutions such as the Costa Rican Aqueduct and Sewage Institute, Agrarian Development Institute, Costa Rican Electricity Institute, and the Costa Rican Oil Refinery.

El Salvador

Cristiani Holds News Conference 19 Jul

PA2007234493 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1720 GMT 19 Jul 93

[News conference by President Alfredo Cristiani with an unidentified moderator and local reporters; place not given—live]

[Text] [Cristiani] According to the report released this morning, in those areas where the deterrent Armed Forces deployment has taken place, the crime rate has dropped. There have been few reports of criminal incidents, except for the incident on La Libertad Highway, which is going to receive priority treatment. There have been no incidents, really, except for one in Ahuachapan, where criminals saw the troops and refrained from attacking a gentleman and instead fled.

The (?operation) has proceeded normally. I repeat, there have been no incidents. In the beginning there was a National Police operation on La Libertad Highway and the Police did not want Army troops to participate in the operation, but troops are in that area now. I believe the security forces will feel more confident knowing the troops are present if anything should happen, because the operation was jointly designed by the police and Army. It is still early and, as I said last week, I do not believe this is the solution to all our crime problems, nor is it the only solution we are implementing. But we are hoping for a positive outcome. I believe the operation has been a success thus far and I hope it will continue to dissuade criminals.

[Moderator] Norma Jimenez of (?Prensa Noticias).

[Jimenez] My question concerns the most recent investigations by the U.S. State Department, which has acknowledged that through its embassies there has been complicity—so to speak— with regard to human rights violations. I would like your opinion as president of the Republic.

[Cristiani] I have not heard anything specific about any report and I would not dare to express a specific opinion. I can guarantee, however, that since 1989 I have not received any information that proves complicity on the part of the U.S. Embassy. Some people question the embassy's role in the Jesuit case, especially with regard to incidents that took place in the United States, not in El Salvador. It has not been necessary for us to conceal anything. There could not have been any complicity because we had absolutely nothing to conceal.

[Moderator] Mario Medriz, Radio Cadena Cuscatlan.

[Medriz] Good morning, Mr. President. I have two questions. One of them pertains to the inquiry into the

death of Monsignor Ramos; where is the investigation headed? The other pertains to the investigation of the complicity of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front and the Farabundo Marti People's Liberation Forces in kidnappings. Where are these investigations headed now that Interpol has gotten involved? I would also like to know how El Salvador is handling these investigations.

[Cristiani] Regarding the investigation of Msgr. Ramos' death, the last report I received came early last week. Because of President Salinas' visit and my departure for Brazil immediately afterward, I have not been briefed nor have I received an updated report. The last thing I heard was that it had been confirmed that the bullet that hit the gentleman employed by the Challenge Cargo Company was of the caliber used in M-16's. Nothing had been confirmed regarding the other two cases—those of Colonel Moran and Msgr. Ramos, which are more difficult. In one case there is no bullet and in the other there are only fragments, and nothing has been confirmed.

I cannot say what has happened since then, but the investigation continues and those experts to be appointed by the Episcopal Conference have been kept abreast of the situation, although they have not participated. The Conference will appoint a commission of experts to follow up on and cooperate with the investigation of this case.

Regarding the kidnappings, this investigation is also being conducted by several countries that have been affected, mainly Brazil and Mexico. It has been determined that people kidnapped in those countries also appeared in the files that were found in Santa Rosa, Managua.

It is possible that Interpol may have some information on this. We do not know anything specific about Interpol's investigation. There were some rumors about the possibility that said groups participated in one of the kidnappings in Mexico. But, I repeat, there is no specific or confirmed information at this time.

The investigation will continue. In Brazil we noticed the deep concern for what was discovered in Santa Rosa, namely an international terrorist network. All countries are conducting their own investigations. In fact, although initially it was unimportant, a paragraph appeared in the final declaration [of the Third Ibero-American Summit] condemning international terrorism and regarding the struggle against it.

We noticed particularly the great concern in this regard of Mexico and Colombia. As concerns Ecuador, Mr. Sixto Duran-Ballen was really not aware of it. In fact, he asked me several questions. I met Sixto by chance before, during a trip to Taiwan. At that time he asked me some questions about this issue and I gave him some information. He said he was going to begin an investigation in his country. In other words, the investigations continue and there is great concern over their repercussions.

Now the United States, after finding Nicaraguan passports with the gang that placed the bomb in the Twin Towers, is beginning to worry that terrorism can reach the United States and that these networks promote or facilitate this kind of situation. This will undoubtedly continue to be investigated until we find out what is behind it and, most likely, until we destroy these organizations that promote terrorism at the world level.

You, on the end, what was your question?

[Moderator] Amalia Alejandro, Radio Venceremos.

[Alejandro] Good morning, Mr. President. My question has to do with the Third Ibero-American Summit, held in Salvador de Bahia. I would like to ask what specific benefits will Salvadorans receive from this summit?

[Cristiani] I think that Ibero-American summits must be viewed as a process of rapprochement between countries that previously did not have such communication mechanisms. These processes have begun at the highest level to give them important dynamics.

The potential to make personal contacts at the highest level of each government allows us to develop relations that go beyond contacts that could be made if these meetings and such familiarity among regional heads of state and government did not exist. Many results come from this exchange, in different areas. Maybe they are not felt immediately by any country, although El Salvador has already seen positive results from both the second and third summits. Perhaps it was not visible, but El Salvador was the beneficiary of one of the two literacy campaigns sponsored by Spain. As part of this program, 1,500 workers will be trained.

We are glad to receive unanimous support so El Salvador can host this world forum early next year. We expect to see economic and social benefits from bilateral and regional relationships. For instance, free trade agreements between Venezuela, Colombia, and Central America and between Mexico and Central America, as well as technical cooperation programs like those between El Salvador and Argentina and Uruguay and Chile were not possible before. They were the results of such summits.

Of course, the general idea is to look for a regional consensus for Ibero-America, particularly Latin America, to determine its future. In the past, countries have participated haphazardly in several forums. As a consequence, we as a region have been unable to influence certain decisions. A world summit on development will be held in 1995. The United Nations has listened with interest to ideas on development, particularly social development [words indistinct] Ibero-American Summit. This means that Latin America is being taken into consideration in the decisionmaking, unlike in the past, when we only watched from afar. This forum has become important worldwide.

These are the forum's advantages. Our countries cannot offer the same type of assistance that an industrialized country can offer a developing country. We cannot expect large amounts of money from Mexico or Venezuela but cooperation with each other facilitates our countries' development.

[Moderator] Maria E. Montenegro of Radio Cadena Central.

[Montenegro] Good morning, Mr. President. I have two questions. The first one deals with the people's concern over the increase in bean prices. Reports indicate that it has been impossible to maintain strategic reserves of this product, which the Agriculture Ministry has distributed through the various markets. The people are also wondering about the need for government control to prevent this reserve from being sold to monopolizers, as has been happening. The product is being sold at six colones in the market.

[Cristiani] We have been selling Agricultural Development Bank reserve products at a higher rate during July. We have sold at least 1,000 quintals of beans every day to various buyers. The bank has no standing contracts with any particular person. The beans are for sale to anyone. We are not encouraging a monopoly. The strategic reserve at the most intends to maintain a certain price stability in the market until the new crop is harvested in August, when prices will go down again. Prices in other countries have gone much higher than in El Salvador because of scant production. Certain price stability exists. Last week, before I departed, we received a report that the strategic reserve was being sold well and fast and that the trend toward skyrocketing prices had come to an end. The upper part of the curve had already been reached. It will begin to drop when the new crop arrives.

We will continue to sell the strategic reserves. But we do not want to sell 60,000 quintals in a single day because this would surely lead to a monopoly.

[Montenegro] Why must consumers pay six colones instead of the stated 2.90 to 3.30 colones?

[Cristiani] Should any buyers want to go to the bank to buy, they will be able to buy at the published prices. Everyone knows there are intermediaries in markets. Anyone wishing to buy directly from the bank can do so.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr. President, good morning. I have two questions. First, in meetings like that at Salvador de Bahia, chiefs of state always meet together but also bilaterally. I would like to know which presidents you met with directly and if you had a chance to talk with Fidel Castro. Also, what is the Corruption Commission doing? What has it done up to now? Officials in your government have been accused of corruption.

[Cristiani] A good share of what happens at these meetings is bilateral contacts. The occasion is used to discuss matters of mutual interest and also of private interest with regard to topics on the agenda. We did have many opportunities to talk with the Spanish prime minister. We discussed Spanish cooperation, particularly the programs included in the peace process. These programs are progressing well. We held talks, especially on the first day of the summit, with all the signatories of the coffee agreement. We held lengthy conversations with the Colombian president. We signed a document supporting the efforts that are under way with regard to coffee exports. Ecuador joined the group involved in these efforts.

With the Mexican president, well, we had two days to discuss several bilateral issues. We signed a document at the end of his visit here.

We talked with the Central American leaders, especially the Group of Four, about the upcoming meeting in Amapala next week. We also talked about the next summit, to see how we can solve the Belize problem. There is an impasse with regard to Belize's participation. We are to continue discussing that problem. Well, we discussed bilateral matters with others, too.

Regarding the Corruption Commission, it has continued its work. But unless specific charges are made, they cannot be investigated. Most of the charges mentioned involved political matters. They were made by people who are not interested in solving the corruption problem but in political attacks.

Investigations were conducted at the Lempa River Hydroelectric Executive Commission, National Telecommunications Administration, and other government agencies and the accusations against them proved baseless. Everything was legal there.

The Commission is working very hard to reform the way public bids are conducted and mechanisms are being sought to reorganize procedures in places where corruption has been present for many years. In some cases results have been seen. In other cases we have met some resistance but we will continue our efforts in the customs, immigration, and traffic departments.

You have noticed some changes. Those who have traveled by plane mentioned that they are no longer charged five colones and things like that.

In other words, we are working on it. We are working on laws such as the luggage law, which involves the customs office. This law annoys visitors very much. Changes are being made as a result of the Commission's investigations.

The Commission has found problems in certain areas and we have two alternatives: to put an end to the bad practice once and for all, an action that must be left as a last recourse, or to make an attempt to settle the matter. Many times the corrupt act is a very old practice in a specific area. Consequently, certain regulations must be changed to avoid such practices. But if this situation does not apply, then we must put an end to the practice

once and for all. We feel we must give them the opportunity first to settle these matters.

Ministers Present Annual Report to Congress

PA2107033793 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] The ministers of the presidency, defense, planning, and public works appeared before the legislature to present their reports on their activities, highlighting the achievements made in the current fiscal year. The first to arrive on 19 July was Presidency Minister Oscar Alfredo Santamaria, who stressed the government's strenuous efforts to meet its diverse commitments on peace issues. Here is what Minister Santamaria said:

[Being Santamaria recording] Most outstanding is the character the president has bestowed on the process, during which a large amount of political will was expended. The government has made a great effort, particularly in the implementation of the many programs and projects derived from the peace agreements. Even though economic resources have been earmarked for these programs, the government has had to work under difficult conditions. [end recording]

Planning Minister Mirna Lievano de Marquez highlighted that the progress made in economic matters has been positive. The minister said that the nation grew considerably and lowered inflation as compared to the past two years while achieving considerable goals in the international aid area.

[Begin Lievano recording] In my opinion, our most outstanding achievement is that, even though we signed new loan agreements, the nation's foreign debt is lower than at the beginning of this administration. This was made possible by the nation's ability to negotiate with the U.S. and Canadian Governments to forgive our debt. The current debt is at approximately—at the close of this report—$1.8 billion. It was at $2.1 million one and one-half years ago. [end recording]

Public Works Minister Jose Raul Castaneda reported that his ministry completed in the previous [word indistinct] several infrastructure projects to construct and reconstruct the nation's highways. He added that with international support these projects will continue for the next two months.

Presidency, Defense Ministers

PA2107044693 San Salvador Radio Venceremos Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Presidency Minister Oscar Santamaria and Defense Minister Humberto Corado said the most important achievements in their ministries this past year was the fulfillment of the peace accords signed on 16 January 1992. Santamaria and Corado each presented to the Legislative Assembly their reports on their ministries' activities from 1 June 1992 to 31 May 1993.

The presidency minister said his main achievement was having directed in an outstanding manner the course of the peace process, with the complete fulfillment of the government's commitments. According to the minister, this is one of the government's most significant accomplishments. Santamaria said that despite the difficulties and delays, the Cristiani administration was able to implement most of the structural changes established in the historic peace accords. In this context, he stressed the beginning of the transfer of productive land and the creation of several democratic institutions such as the National Civilian Police, the Public Security Academy, the Human Rights Ombudsman's Office, and the Supreme Electoral Tribunal. According to Santamaria, the greatest constraint in complying with the agreements was a lack of funds, especially because the government has not received timely and sufficient amounts of aid as promised by the international community.

The defense minister said the Armed Forces' greatest contribution in the past year was its guarantee that the peace agreements would be met, even though the cost for them was very high. Corado said the military institution began an in-depth process of reducing, demobilizing, and purging its forces and reforming its doctrine and internal administrative procedures. The defense minister said that when he assumed his post, he found that the Armed Forces had high morale and strong spirit to continue their constitutional mission.

FMLN's Saenz Calls for End to Army Highway Patrols

PA2107023693 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Miguel Saenz, a leader of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, FMLN, has stated that instead of sending the Army to patrol highways, the government should take special measures to train the National Civilian Police [PNC] so they can fulfill their mission to fight crime.

According to Saenz, the Army highway patrols have not yielded the optimum results expected. The left-wing politician believes that the Army does not have the police capacity required in these cases. He noted that it is better to train PNC personnel who, under PNC guidance, can better control common crime.

[Begin Saenz recording] I believe that using the Army for this is not the best measure. If the PNC is not sufficient for this, special measures, extraordinary measures, should be taken to increase the training of PNC personnel and to give them the necessary logistical support so they can fulfill their mission efficiently and effectively. [end recording]

Saenz said the opposition parties have rejected this measure from the beginning because they believe it is illegal. President Cristiani ordered the Army patrols.

[Begin Saenz recording] We do not believe the Army patrols will solve the crime problem because this problem must be solved from a technical standpoint. This problem has structural, economic, social, and political roots. Consequently, we feel that these problems must be solved [words indistinct]. The crime problem must be dealt with immediately and it must be done with authentic police ideas, techniques, and means. [end recording]

According to President Cristiani, only two highway robberies occurred this weekend: one in Ahuachapan Department and the other in La Libertad. He added that the soldiers will continue to patrol rural areas.

Army Deploys in Usulutan

PA2107042893 San Salvador Radio Venceremos Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] The Armed Forces have deployed patrols in 20 areas throughout the country to prevent crime. One area is the Northern Trunk Highway near Berlin, Usulutan Department. We have a report by Jose Someta on the Armed Forces' deployment:

[Begin Someta recording] We are at the Berlin turnoff on the way to the city of Usulutan. During our drive to Usulutan, we were able to confirm the Army deployment. We saw on the highway to Comalapa that a lot of troops are patrolling the streets. We have seen a column of 15 soldiers approximately every 500 meters. At the entrance to Olocuilta, soldiers have set up a checkpoint to prevent any criminal activity. Soldiers are patrolling the Berlin turnoff.

When we crossed the San Marcos Lempa bridge, we saw about eight trucks carrying members of the National Police [PN] and such things as beds and mattresses. They were traveling from La Union to San Salvador. I imagine this is because there was a change of command in La Union from the PN to the National Civilian Police, which are going to replace the PN in providing security there. Many soldiers are seen patrolling the road from San Salvador to Usulutan to prevent criminal activity. [end recording]

National Police in La Union

PA2107042993 San Salvador Radio Venceremos Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] The fourth contingent of the new National Civilian Police, PNC, was deployed in eastern La Union Department on 20 July, a PNC spokesman reported. The source said the group is formed by 224 policemen who will be distributed throughout that area, 184 km from San Salvador. They will replace members of the only existing security corps in El Salvador: the National Police.

With the deployment of PNC members in La Union, the PNC has assigned 916 policemen to three of the country's 14 departments since April. The PNC, which emerged from the peace agreements signed by the government and the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front in 1992, has begun to replace the country's previous security bodies, which operated under military command. The PNC plans to grow to approximately 10,000 members in five years.

Commentary on Military Role

PA2007171293 San Salvador Radio Farabundo Marti Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 19 Jul 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] We are not at war, yet soldiers are once again in the streets. That shows that the military and a group of political leaders want to cling to the past. The Nationalist Republican Alliance [Arena] administration is now using the crime rate as a pretext for bring the military out of the garrisons. Surely there will always be excuses for doing it again in the future.

The spirit and letter of the Chapultepec Agreements are being violated with the militarization ordered by Alfredo Cristiani. Spokesmen for the United Nations and the Catholic Church have described very explicitly the differences between a police force and an army. The police force should be a civilian rather than political corps that is trained specifically to fight crime. The Armed Forces are prepared for other missions, such as defending the nation from attack by a foreign army, and that is why they have war weapons.

At no time have the soldiers been trained to conduct legal investigations. It is very dangerous for them to be authorized to take violent action when they are attacked or when they are allegedly witnessing criminal actions. Those powers granted by Cristiani could be misused against the political opposition or for settling personal conflicts.

Everyone agrees that we must fight hard against crime. However, the National Civilian Police [PNC], the corps that has been trained for that task, is experiencing financial difficulties. It would be best for the government to finance adequately the PNC and pick up the thousands of war rifles that were given to rightist groups during the conflict.

Crime should be fought, but without neglecting the things that provoke it. The government should receive the people's support to accomplish that task. In that light, it is very doubtful that the garrison doors have been opened to fight criminals. It would seem that this effort intends to preserve the military's power over the civilians.

Guatemala

URNG Declaration on Resuming Negotiations

PA2107014293 Guatemala City SIGLO VEINTIUNO in Spanish 17 Jul 93 p 26

["Text" of declaration issued by the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity, URNG, General Command on 16 July; place not given]

[Text] Toward resuming the negotiation process and making progress on agreements reached so far, the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity [URNG] General Command issues the following declaration:

The URNG General Command values President Ramiro De Leon Carpio's interest in the negotiation process for the democratization and political solution of our country's internal armed conflict, a process that has been the object of national and international concern since March 1990 when the Oslo Agreement was signed.

The URNG states again, as it has since 1986, its willingness to seek, through a negotiation process, a political solution to the internal armed conflict that can establish the groundwork for true democratization and social justice, thereby solving the problems that led to the war.

Roots and Reason for the Struggle

The beginning and the development of the armed struggle in Guatemala is an entire historic process of resistance and political and social vindication. The struggle is an expression of the aspirations of various sectors of Guatemalan society to fight an undemocratic, militarist, and corrupt system that has preempted the development, justice, and observance of our people's fundamental rights.

The internal armed conflict cannot be separated from its roots, its economic, political, and social causes. Its appearance constitutes an integral, political, and social process that could only end in an armed struggle. Because of this, its solution must also necessarily be an integral solution.

Omissions and Contradictions of a Proposal

President De Leon Carpio's proposal, which he announced during a news conference, and which was stated in a 7 July press release, contains the following structural flaws:

It arbitrarily eliminates three years of negotiations, to which two successive governments have been legally and politically committed; the institution of the mediator; the official observance of the United Nations; the good offices of the governments of Norway, Spain, Canada, Ecuador, and Mexico, which have been the official hosts of the negotiation process; and the participation of the group of countries that are friends of the mediator and of the Guatemalan peace process as agreed by the parties involved in early 1993.

It disregards the recognition of the parties involved in the negotiation process, internationally recognized by the agreements reached and signed in Oslo.

It disregards the contents of the negotiations and the agreements reached during the process.

It excludes and belittles the mediator's role and duties.

To separate and to break in two the overall peace and democracy negotiation and to change the format, the logic, and the negotiating concept is to misrepresent the entire process. Such a far-reaching process cannot be annulled.

The Constructive Continuity of the Process

The URNG reasserts its willingness to resume a process that is so vital for our people. We consider elements of President De Leon Carpio's proposal to be constructive.

A broader format with greater participation by the United Nations and a personal follow-up by the OAS secretary general are valid and accepted by us, provided they do not oppose or minimize the role of the mediator.

The Permanent Forum for Peace represents an option that allows and guarantees the irreplaceable participation of civilian groups, complementing rather than replacing the negotiation process. Its role is to be the appropriate means to convey the social groups' proposals and initiatives to the negotiating parties.

The Permanent Forum for Peace has the right to participate, through a delegation of observers made up according to a procedure that will be established by the mediator, in every discussion involving a substantive issue.

The mediator is the appropriate person to call and direct this forum. He must also be ratified as the facilitator of the overall process, concerning both substantial and operational issues.

The URNG is willing to participate as an observer in the forum, provided its safety is duly guaranteed. Since it is part of the negotiations, its direct participation in the forum would constitute its representation.

National public opinion, as stated by different spokesmen, has pointed out the incongruity of separating the two sides of the nation's problem, which are forever interrelated.

Peace, development, progress, social justice, and democracy represent a whole. This is how it is done with great buildings. The groundwork must be established completely, not partially.

Based on these principles, the URNG states its willingness to hold a preliminary meeting with Guatemalan Government and Army delegations, presided over by the mediator, Monsignor Rodolfo Quezada Toruno, and in

the presence of UN Observer Dr. Jean Arnault, to establish specific details on which negotiations may be generally resumed.

The solution to make the country a democracy, to make civilian society prevail over a recalcitrant military power and great economic interests cannot be the result of the government's measures or the URNG's efforts and struggle. It is a task for all groups that make up Guatemalan society.

A Task for All

The struggle for and defense of our own interests and the nation's interests against groups that oppose progress, democracy, and social justice and advocate and are responsible for impunity and corruption is a task for all and the guarantee that we will achieve a solution that favors Guatemala's interests, solves the nation's problems, and achieves a just and democratic peace.

[Signed] URNG General Command: Commander Rolando Moran; Commander Pablo Monsanto [Jose Soto Garcia]; Commander Gaspar Ilom [Rodrigo Asturias]; Carlos Gonzalez, Guatemalan Labor Party secretary general

[Issued] 16 July 1993

Government Grants Safe-Conduct to URNG Peace Negotiators

PA2007173093 Guatemala City SIGLO VEINTIUNO in Spanish 18 Jul 93 p 3

[Article by Tulio Juarez]

[Text] Acting President Arturo Herbruger Asturias stated on 17 July that "the government guarantees the necessary protection to whomever the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity [URNG] sends as observers to the Permanent Forum for Peace."

Herbruger said the government is committed to granting safe-conducts to URNG delegates, something that does not necessarily imply amnesty but does guarantee their total security so they may participate in bilateral talks.

Regarding certain aspects of the URNG leadership's formal response to the peace plan announced by Ramiro de Leon Carpio, Herbruger noted: "They are calling for an integral solution." He added: "However, they must be explicit, because ambiguity leads nowhere, and I think the URNG position is very ambiguous."

After briefly analyzing the URNG's response, Herbruger said it is "very good that there are two channels" to use in the search for a firm and lasting peace. He continued: "Our view holds that peace should be sought through a domestic channel, the Permanent Forum in Guatemala, and through an international channel, as it has been in the past." Herbruger added that the external channel—the dialogue in Mexico, for example—has failed. He said it is now possible to have a domestic channel, through the conciliator, that all sectors may use to speak to each other.

The acting president said it is possible to make progress through direct talks with guerrilla commanders, even though some sectors claim it is impossible because the commanders are criminals. Herbruger stated: "It is absolutely necessary to have a broader viewpoint and to take the examples in El Salvador and Nicaragua as precedents for resolving conflicts through peace talks."

President Undecided Over Attorney General's Resignation

PA2007220893 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1700 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Guatemala City, 20 Jul (NOTIMEX)—Presidency sources revealed on 20 July that Attorney General Edgar Tuna Valladares has tendered his resignation but President Ramiro De Leon Carpio has reserved the right to accept it or not.

Tuna Valladares said that on 10 occasions he notified the president of his interest in resigning from the Attorney General's office, but De Leon Carpio refrained from accepting his resignation.

The official said on 5 July he tendered his resignation formally in a letter in which he indicated that "this is a matter of dignity and honor. I cannot continue as a prisoner of circumstance so my situation at the Attorney General's Office should be settled."

Tuna Valladares said he has continued in the post because it is his responsibility, but if the president does not accept his resignation, he will leave the post without heeding legal limitations or eventual sanctions resulting from this decision.

The official said his resignation is the result of a series of charges against him from political parties and because "the Executive Branch has failed to clarify the situation properly."

Tuna Valladares has been accused of being an opportunist and of pretending he plays an outstanding political role in the current administration—something he failed to do during former President Jorge Serrano Elias' administration.

Last month Tuna Valladares started an investigation of Serrano Elias, who has sought asylum in Panama. Serrano is accused of fraud, embezzlement, failure to enforce the law, violating the Constitution, and misdemeanors against state agencies.

Serrano Elias dissolved the Legislative and Judicial Branches on 25 May, arguing that they were affected by corruption and drug trafficking.

On 20 May De Leon Carpio sent a request to the Constitutionality Court asking it to determine if he is legally authorized to appoint the nation's new attorney general.

The president must settle the case of former Attorney General Acisclo Valladares, who faces fraud and perjury charges.

Human Rights Organization Reports Statistics on Violations

PA2007143393 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2144 GMT 19 Jul 93

[Text] Guatemala City, 19 Jul (NOTIMEX)—The Center for Human Rights Investigation, Study, and Promotion (Cieprodh) reported on 19 July that 136 extrajudicial executions, 67 death threats, and 19 cases of torture were registered during the first six months of 1993.

According to the Cieprodh report, 366 violations of the right to life, freedom, security, and freedom of thought, expression, association, organization, and demonstration were registered between January and June.

The death threats were made by state security agents to intimidate individuals or organized groups, Cieprodh reported.

The organization also reported two rapes, 47 attacks. 18 people injured or wounded, one suspicious death, 12 kidnappings, eight people kidnapped and released, 11 abductions-murders, and 11 missing persons.

The Guatemalan Human Rights Ombudsman's Office reported that in 1992 there were 6,614 violations of individual rights, 319 more than the previous reporting period.

Violations of individual rights in 1992 included 387 reports of extrajudicial deaths, 36 of which were carried out by security agents and 12 by subversive groups.

According to the Human Rights Ombudsman's Office, extrajudicial executions are carried out selectively rather than in a massive or institutionalized manner, particularly against leaders representing popular sectors.

An Amnesty International (AI) report states that abuse of power has not diminished in Guatemala. The report adds that in other Central American nations torture, homicide, forceful disappearances, and arbitrary detentions "are atrocious realities that are growing supported by impunity."

Officials at the AI international secretariat told NOTIMEX that the cycle of violence will not stop in the region as long as repressive agents can act with impunity.

"There are hundreds of victims of generalized human rights violations perpetrated by Army members and their civilian agents. Among those affected are labor leaders, students, and members of popular movements," the AI report noted.

Other victims include Indians who refuse to join the civil defense patrols or reporters and lawyers who demand investigations of human rights violations, the sources added.

On 19 July the Communities of Resistant People (CPR), an organization made up of Indian groups caught in the cross fire between the Army and guerrillas, reported harassment by official forces.

According to AI, the Guatemalan Army's counterinsurgency tactics include bombings and attacks on the CPR, which have resulted in many civilian injuries.

Defense Minister General Mario Enriquez denied the CPR reports, stressing that "they are using those allegations to support the guerrillas."

Minister Enriquez said last week that peasants grouped in the CPR are being trained by the guerrillas and have AK-47 rifles, RPG rocket launchers, grenades, and Claymore mines, which the Indians have denied.

The CPR is made up of more than 20,000 peasants who live in war zones and who must move constantly to avoid clashes between the Army and guerrillas.

Honduras

Editorial Explores Role of New U.S. Ambassador

PA1907211393 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 17 Jul 93 p 5

[Editorial: "The New Ambassador"]

[Text] The new U.S. ambassador has arrived. We are told the diplomat has lots of experience in the field, sufficient knowledge of Latin American problems after his previous posts, and a more discreet style than his predecessor.

In his first statements to the media, Ambassador William Pryce said he pledges to "sponsor democracy, respect for human rights, and the rule of justice."

He also said he feels "particularly fortunate to be in Honduras and have the opportunity to work with such an outstanding leader, meaning President Rafael Leonardo Callejas, who has done so much for democracy and his homeland's economic development."

The government, which has had its problems with Crescencio Arcos, surely must be more than pleased with the statements made by the diplomat from the world's foremost power. Results of a recent poll reveal a high degree of acceptance for Crescencio Arcos' actions, particularly because he courageously pointed out many vices and tried to correct them by making them public and using his post to exert pressure. That is why his relationship with the government, military, and other ruling groups was tense at times.

He was called a "meddler" many times. Nevertheless, a majority of the Honduran people termed his actions positive. A recent poll reveals that the Honduran people generally agreed with Crescencio Arcos' actions. In fact, according to the same poll—although there is a lot of discussion about whether ambassadors should meddle in national issues, like Arcos did—a vast majority of the people believe "he was right to meddle."

Those results will surely please the diplomat who recently left to occupy another post in Washington, and in a way they will serve as guidance for the new ambassador. In other words, although it is correct for ambassadors to try to maintain the best possible relationship with the government, their relationship with the country and its people is most important. Consequently, a very pleasing relationship with the government is not always in the best interests of the ambassador's post.

We believe Pryce knows a lot about these countries, but he also says he is "anxious to know the Honduran people, their traditions, and their institutions." We have seen many ambassadors pass through here, but no one remembers them because that was all they did; "pass through here." But others left their mark and made important contributions that earned them the respect of a nation that still remembers their actions with affection.

The United States still plays an important role in our politics and international relations, so the role played by its ambassadors is always a matter of interest. Their opinions and statements are still valuable, although the economic aid we receive is increasingly smaller. There is no reason why we should not believe the new U.S. envoy will play a magnificent role consistent with the prestige he has earned in previous missions.

Deputy Finance Minister on Reduced Budget for 1994

PA2107041693 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 20 Jul 93 p 13

[Text] The general budget for 1994, which will be presented to the National Congress in the first week of September, will show a reduction of 1 billion lempiras.

Deputy Finance Minister Rafael Suazo made the announcement on 19 July, noting that the 1994 budget will be lower than the 1993 budget. He added that it has been reduced in accordance with guidelines provided by President Rafael Leonardo Callejas.

Suazo said the budget is being adjusted so the fiscal deficit will be equivalent to 2 percent of gross national product. He added that the budget resources will come from loans and donations already negotiated with international financial organizations.

Suazo said the 1994 national budget will total approximately 5 billion lempiras, while the 1993 budget was 6 billion lempiras.

Suazo said there will be no problems at the end of the current fiscal year because all the estimates are congruent with the overall framework of income and expenses.

Nicaragua

Chamorro Reviews Summit Meetings, Calls for National Unity

PA2007202693 Managua Radio Nicaragua Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Upon returning from the Third Ibero-American Summit in Salvador, Bahia, Brazil, Nicaraguan President Violeta Chamorro issued a call for national unity to fight the unemployment and poverty inherited from the past. During her stay in that Brazilian city, the Nicaraguan president met with her colleagues from Chile and Brazil and Spain's King Juan Carlos to renegotiate the $11 billion debt inherited from the Sandinist dictatorship.

[Begin recording] [Chamorro] [Words indistinct] to help the United Nations play the role it should play, which involves not only peace and security by people's social and economic development as well. The secretary general must present an agenda for development during the next General Assembly meeting in New York in September. I am certain the conclusions we reached will be taken into consideration because of all the things we had to say.

We are all aware that the new conditions prevalent in the world have allowed advances toward peace instead of war. It is time for the international community to worry about the development of poor countries.

As a Nicaraguan, I maintained the position that there can be no peace without real development. Countries with foreign debts like ours, a debt we inherited from the past, will have a very difficult [words indistinct]. We are involved in this difficult task and are certain that friendly countries will help us.

We also [words indistinct] program of action [words indistinct] in favorable conditions, especially for social development. It is a search for the best [words indistinct] health, investment, housing, and employment.

Regarding social development, [words indistinct] the health of the sick [words indistinct].

The coffee-producing nations took advantage of the occasion to sign a document backing the position taken by the [words indistinct] so prices will increase [words indistinct] producers of Central America and Colombia.

I also took the opportunity to meet with the Spanish king and Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez to review cooperation matters. I also thanked them for the $83-million loan we recently received.

I met with Chilean President Aylwin, and we reviewed cooperation between the two countries. I met with Brazilian President Itamar Franco, with whom I discussed

the debt. You know the debt was the cruelest thing I inherited in this country. [Words indistinct] good results.

All the presidents reviewed the agreements reached in previous summits, particularly those concerning cooperation matters, which were agreements reached in Madrid. [Words indistinct] Hispasat, education via satellite. We are working on that. We are working on adult education, ecology, [words indistinct], health, [words indistinct] and other things that, I imagine, will come later on. [Words indistinct] 800 scholarships [words indistinct] graduate work.

More important than all of that is what Nicaraguans will do for economic and social development here when there are hotheads stirring up trouble and issuing calls. What should we do? We must work together to build the Nicaragua we all want. I want to take this day to issue a call to the country's political and social forces to join our efforts to overcome unemployment. We Nicaraguans should set the example. We must strive to recover the time lost in the 1980's, the past decade. [end recording]

Ecuadoran President Reportedly on Terrorists' 'Hit List'

PA2007142193 Managua Radio Nicaragua Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Nicaraguan President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro revealed upon her return from the Third Ibero-American Summit in Salvador de Bahia, Brazil that her Ecuadoran counterpart, Sixto Duran-Ballen, was included on a hit list created by terrorists who stashed subversive information in the Santa Rosa weapons cache.

In statements to the local media, President Violeta Chamorro said the Uruguayan [as heard] president personally revealed the terrorists' plans to kidnap him, adding that the plans were discovered at the Santa Rosa weapons cache belonging to the Salvadoran Popular Liberation Forces guerrilla group.

[Begin Chamorro recording] I met with the Ecuadoran president, and after I greeted him he said: Mrs. Chamorro, it seems I am on the list. That was news to me, so I answered: What list? He said: The list of people they were going to kill. I said: You do not say! How can you believe that!

It just happens that a Sao Paulo newspaper reported on 18 July—here is the clipping—that [words indistinct]. It says here I always make sure INTERPOL and the whole world come to find out who the real culprits are so they are punished according to the law, because this type of thing cannot be allowed. How can we work for the country and [words indistinct] country used throughout 10 years to do such things? In my opinion, it is reprehensible and reproachable. [end recording]

Police Disrupt Terrorist Plot in Masaya

PA1807190293 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 17 Jul 93 pp 1, 8

[Report by Socorro Lopez]

[Excerpts] The Masaya police have disrupted a vast terrorist plan to destroy energy towers within the interconnection system with Costa Rica. This would have left Nicaragua without communication with the other Central American countries.

Four powerful devices were found attached to each base of the high voltage towers that form the electric system with Costa Rica. The devices were carefully defused by police in Las Flores.

Each device, manufactured with RDG-5 explosives, has a 30-meter radius of action, which would have caused a massacre of peasants in the community of Pilas Orientales and a large number of settlements in Villa San Francisco, San Fernando, 12 de Mayo—located between kilometer 29 and 30 on the Masaya-Granada highway. [passage omitted]

The security fasteners [anillos] around the large tower had been loosened to facilitate the explosion.

Commander Orlando Aguilera, Subcommander Carlos Rodriguez, Lieutenants Sigfrido Baldelomar and Cesar Useda, and a deployment of guards inspected the site and found pamphlets on the National Salvation Democratic Front Nicaraguan Resistance and others issuing an appeal to join the military struggle.

Other pamphlets contained Enrique Bermudez' picture and a statement blaming Army Chief Humberto Ortega Saavedra for his death. Several screws had been loosened to weaken the structure to facilitate the terrorist plan. [passage omitted]

Humberto Ortega Describes Plan Against Armed Groups

PA2007154193 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 19 Jul 93 pp 1, 5

["Exclusive" interview with General Humberto Ortega, commander in chief of the Sandinist People's Army, by unidentified reporter in Managua; date not given]

[Text] [Reporter] What is the essence of the Army's plan against armed groups after 31 August?

[Ortega] Basically, it is a comprehensive plan. It is a comprehensive, offensive plan in which military operations will be a more offensive than defensive or dissuasive nature.

It includes a legal aspect to ensure a review of laws and the promulgation of new ones to better support systematic actions against those who continue to operate outside the law after 31 August.

We want the legal system to have a special presence to allow an adequate administration of justice while military and Police operations take place.

We do not rule out the establishment of a state of emergency in several territories, if warranted, to support the authorities' operations against the groups after 31 August.

The police force will increase its presence in outlying areas as determined by military operations. The force will also make arrests and conduct searches as necessary.

[Unidentified reporter] What government programs are included in this plan?

[Ortega] It includes the implementation of government programs that for some reason or another did not have the expected impact in previous months and were the targets of complaints by various armed groups.

We examined the most important government programs affecting the immediate social base of these groups, especially those programs affecting groups which, due to the crisis, are unemployed or being manipulated into joining armed groups. Those measures must be sustained and become part of a larger-scale action in the future.

This comprehensive effort also calls on the country's main sectors to play an active role. We, especially the Government Ministry authorities, are trying to ensure that business sectors reject armed groups and contribute to the special expenditures that this plan will demand from the central government.

It is also important that the country's unions and community and social groups reject those who are disturbing the country's peace. It is very important that the media, all political leaders, and representatives of the various churches and social and sports groups gain the attention of these groups, seize this opportunity, and establish a common front to complete the disarmament process.

Such actions would take opportunities away from those groups and make it easier to attain total peace in the territories. This is an all-out effort to see that most rebels abandon violent confrontation after 31 August.

[Reporter] Is the Army prepared operationally and economically to develop such offensive operations?

[Ortega] We are capable of focusing our military efforts against these groups. The truth is that they can only be eliminated through a comprehensive effort. It will not be won in a great battle as in classical wars. This is an insurgency problem with several causes. It can only be settled through comprehensive formulas that include a series of actions over a period of time designed to limit the guerrillas' operating room, thereby reducing them to a minimum until they disappear altogether.

[Reporter] Has the Army planned to transfer the management of information and security bodies to civilian institutions in the short or middle term?

[Ortega] In Nicaragua's case it would be a mistake to dismantle for political rather than professional interests the bodies that have become professional through great efforts in the past.

To establish scattered mechanisms when the state apparatus is weak would make us easy prey to corruption and drug trafficking.

As for the security apparatus, which was transferred from the Interior Ministry to the Army after the change of government, we have tried to centralize it as much as possible in times of state crises and deterioration to ensure order and security are in place.

It is not a matter of having more duties just to have them but of rationalization efforts. The Information Directorate for Defense is part of the Army but is at the service of the government. Governments selected every six years determine the activity and scope of the actions of this information apparatus. The Army manages it but the Presidency leads it. We think it is a good model because the apparatus should support government actions. The information it collects would be useless to us if we did not have the mechanisms, through government strings, to act on the basis of the information.

A ruler needs information, and the security apparatus collects and provides that information according to government interests.

It is not important for this apparatus be under the boy scouts or the Marian congregation so they will say it is good. The important thing is who it serves; that is, whether it serves the interests of the state or government or the interests of parties, subversives, or terrorists.

[Reporter] When will the military organization bill be presented?

[Ortega] Within six months.

Minister Pereira Says U.S. Aid Not Conditional

PA2007162093 Managua Radio Nicaragua Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Finance Minister Emilio Pereira recently reported in Managua that the Inter-American Development Bank, IDB, and the Agency for International Development, AID, will soon disburse $75 million in aid for our country.

The minister described relations with the United States and with countries that give us economic aid as very important. He also denied that the U.S. Government is withholding Nicaragua's aid.

[Begin recording] [Pereira] I think it is very important to explain clearly to the citizens that a recent communique issued by the United States....[pauses] Apparently some media interpreted it as the aid being conditional. [Words indistinct] the official communique and there is no

mention of any conditions. Thus the citizens may rest assured because there are no conditions on the aid.

There is some concern about the arms found in Nicaragua. According to the United States, that situation indicates that the military power [words indistinct]. We must recall that one clear government action was disarming civilians and the pacification effort [words indistinct].

Last year we recovered more than 75,000 weapons in our actions to disarm civilians. Perhaps that was normal because of the situation that Nicaragua experienced and the [words indistinct] distribution of weapons among civilians back then.

Consequently, despite our great efforts to recover the weapons, many still remain in our society and they must be seized. There are also arms caches just like those that have been discovered. That is the result of a country at war for 10 years, and it cannot be said that these caches are being used to promote instability in other countries.

I feel it is important to maintain the communication we have always maintained with the United States and other countries that help us. We must be clear in saying that these things are the consequences of a country in transition. We went from a war to a pacification [words indistinct]

[Reporter] This does not mean that the U.S. aid is in danger of suspension or anything like that. However, it could be in danger if it is not disclosed [word indistinct] total control [words indistinct] terrorist groups?

[Pereira] It is good to recognize that foreign aid is very important for Nicaragua. Large disbursements from the IDB, $25 million, and AID, $50 million, are planned for the next few months. We are also expecting aid from other countries.

Normally the aid comes without political conditions. [Words indistinct] that Nicaragua does use the resources, that there is political stability in the country, and that the funds will not be used to interfere in other countries' affairs. [Words indistinct] for this reason, apart from doubling our efforts to find the arms caches or any remaining weapons [words indistinct] to make progress in improving the professionalism of the Police and the Army. [Words indistinct] clearly telling the international community that this is the policy that Nicaragua has adopted to obtain more aid. [end recording]

Argentina

Editorial Views Conflict Between U.S., Iraq

PY2007210193 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 19 Jul 93 p 8

[Editorial: "Decisive Hours"]

[Text] A bit more than a week ago, the conflict between the United States and Iraq over the existence and verification of two nuclear installations reached the maximum tension described by international observers as a point of no-return: Either Saddam Husayn admits the remote control of his nuclear installations according to UN orders, or the White House would unleash a new, massively destructive air strike against the buildings where the missiles are kept. U.S. Vice President Gore has been very precise in stressing that "if they do not destroy them, we will."

Fearing the worst, the UN Disarmament Commission president allegedly is willing to inform the UN Security Council about the last alternatives in this harsh conflict in which Saddam's insistence seems to be meant—paradoxically—at keeping alive the signals of a new confrontation. China, in turn, has established its doctrine of "negotiation at all costs," and it has, accordingly, dutifully made all its moves.

However, in principle, there is only one option: Either Iraq retreats or the United Sates will attack again, perhaps with greater intensity than it did on 27 June.

Experienced in forging appearances and reactivating mistaken beliefs, the Baghdad tyrant counts on the fact that he still has considerable time to test and renew his well-known tricks. His assertion that he "will appropriately answer" any U.S. Air Force attack is nothing more than a demonstration of boasting, knowing the state in which his Air Force was left after the 1990-91 war. Perhaps, his main goal is to stimulate the passions of the people who respond to any of his appeals to demonstrate a power he does not have and to pretend that the "masses" will accept any sacrifice as long as the country's "sovereignty" remains untouched.

The next few days promise to be important for making decisions, both in Washington and Baghdad. However, there will hardly be changes in the approaches known so far. All that is necessary is to close all the exit doors to Saddam to prevent him from committing new tricks that, on more than one occasion, have been interpreted by observers as insufficient demonstrations of diplomatic ability. No new postponements or time limits will be valid. Probably because out of the 70 military and paramilitary conflicts that have attracted world attention for several years, Iraqi nuclear tests are the ones that attract the most attention, given their intrinsic lethal characteristic.

Communist Party Criticizes Menem's Attitude Toward Castro

PY2007211293 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1916 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Buenos Aires, 20 Jul (NA)—Patricio Echegaray, secretary general of the Communist Party, today asked the Cuban people for "forgiveness" because of the way Cuban leader Fidel Castro was treated by Argentine President Carlos Menem, who expressed his "contempt" for the Cuban chief of state.

Echegaray issued a communique in which he harshly criticized "the clownish attitude of our president, who cannot accept playing second fiddle to anyone or anything"

The top local communist highlighted the fact that during the presidential summit held last week in Salvador (Brazil), "the main raison d'etre was the desire of the majority to form Latin America into an entity that will protect them from poverty and dependence."

After reiterating his support for Fidel Castro, who within the next few days will host a summit of the World's socialist parties, Echegaray indicated that on 30 July the various leftist and center-leftist organizations will hold a ceremony of atonement for the Cuban people at the Boxing Federation headquarters.

Given the composition of the Great Front [not further identified], the ceremony will be held concurrent with the celebrations to mark the anniversary of the death of Eva Peron and the 40th anniversary of the assault on the Moncada Barracks, Cuba.

70 Unions 'To Actively Support' Justicialists in Elections

PY2007221793 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 20 Jul 93 p 11

[Excerpt] (DYN)—Representatives of more than 70 progovernment unions agreed yesterday to actively support the Justicialist Party in the October 3 congressional elections and constitutional reform including presidential reelection.

The session marked the return to the government fold for Luis Barrionuevo and Saul Ubaldini, labor leaders in the restaurant and beer industries, respectively. They will be allotted four slots on a 21-member directive committee the coalition is to establish.

The new alliance known as "Peronist Labour's New Proposal for Growth with Social Justice" effectively represents a majority of the members of the General Labour Confederation (CGT [General Confederation of Labor]), the nation's largest labor umbrella group. Andres Rodriguez of the UPCN [National Civil Service Personnel Union] civil servants union said the coalition would serve as a counterweight to the antigovernment 62

Organizations, "which we respect (but) in no way involves the entire labour movement." [passage omitted]

Tax Moratorium To Generate 2.6 Billion Pesos Over 30 Months

PY2007220893 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 20 Jul 93 p 7

[Excerpt] (DYN)—The latest tax and social security moratorium granted by the government exceeded all its expectations and will swell the Treasury by some 2.6 billion pesos in revenue over the next 30 months.

This increase in the taxable base will also allow the government to increase its tax revenue by the end of the year by some 200 million pesos a month, Economy Minister Domingo Cavallo revealed yesterday.

Cavallo said that the new tax moratorium will cause revenue to go up by some 100 million pesos a month and added that "as this has increased the taxable base, IVA—value-added tax—and earnings tax will add another 100 million pesos to the tax revenue."

Speaking at a press conference where he also outlined the debt-payment schedule for pensioners next month, Cavallo pointed out that total tax revenue in the first half of the year was 2.3-billion-pesos higher than in the same period last year in spite of the fact that some 1.6 billion pesos worth of "distortion-causing taxes" have been done away with.

The latest moratorium, the fourth that the government has granted so far, has produced the greatest number of spontaneous declarations and the largest slice of tax revenue so far, with 168,826 presentations promising payment of some 1.42 billion pesos. There were also 46,659 presentations in the social security moratorium, which could total an extra 1.2 billion pesos in revenue. [passage omitted]

Bolivia

U.S. Ambassador Asked To Present Evidence Against Capobianco

PY2107021793 La Paz Television Nacional Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 21 Jul 93

[Text] The Bolivian Attorney General's Office will ask U.S. Ambassador Charles Bowers to present evidence of the charges he made against former interior minister and MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left] leader Guillermo Capobianco for allegedly protecting drug traffickers.

In other words, it is all right to raise charges, but where is the evidence? The reputation of an individual is now at stake. Mr. Capobianco has been the target of charges by the U.S. Embassy, which so far has not presented any evidence of them to the Attorney General's Office.

Brazil

Franco Seeks Austerity in State-Owned Companies

PY2007201793 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 14 Jul 93 Section 1 p 4

[Report by Sonia Mossri and Moniza Izaguirre in Brasilia]

[Text] President Itamar Franco yesterday ordered Finance Minister Fernando Henrique Cardoso and Planning Minister Alexis Stepanenko to act "more energetically and expeditiously" in implementing austerity measures in state-owned companies and in establishing new guidelines to prevent inflation from being automatically transferred to utility rates. Stepanenko warned that state-owned companies that fail to modernize will be privatized or closed.

Stepanenko said: "They must either follow the new concept that state-owned companies must be modern and efficient, or we will close or privatize many of them."

Franco no longer wants utility rates and public fares to be automatically adjusted on the basis of inflation without first verifying the actual costs of the respective company. Stepanenko and Cardoso promised to define in two weeks a package of measures to monitor spending, salary policy, investments, and contributions to pension funds; and to eliminate unrealistic balance sheets.

Franco also met yesterday at Planalto Palace with the chairmen of nine [as published] state-owned companies (Rio Doce Valley Company, Bank of Brazil, the National Bank for Economic and Social Development, the Central Bank, the Brazilian Electric Power Company, Inc., the Brazilian Petroleum Corporation, the Federal Railway Network, and Brazilian Telecommunications, Inc.). Stepanenko opened the meeting by announcing that the government is prepared to dismiss all company executives who are reluctant to comply with the guidelines issued by the government's economic team.

The Finance and Planning Ministries will organize a task group to determine which state-owned companies should be liquidated, closed, incorporated, or merged with other companies. In fact, yesterday's meeting was a victory for both Cardoso and Stepanenko because the president personally joined them in reminding leaders of the major state-owned companies that the government will use its powers as the majority stockholder to demand that these companies comply with austerity measures.

Castro: 'No Hurry To Return to Havana,' Not 'Too Homesick'

PY2007212093 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 19 Jul 93 Section 1 p 7

[Article by Luiz Francisc from the FOLHA agency in Salvador]

[Text] On 17 July, Cuban President Fidel Castro dined with Governor Antonio Carlos Magalhaes (PFL) [Liberal Front Party], 66, at Ondina Palace, in Salvador, Bahia. With a broad smile, Castro said: "Bahia people are more human and their features are similar to those of Cubans." He said he was "impressed" by Pelourinho. "It is one of the most beautiful historical sites that I have seen," he said.

During a visit of more than two hours to Magalhaes' official residence, Castro viewed the works of art. He said he was "particularly captivated" by a collection of silver candlesticks.

Magalhaes and Castro held a private 30-minute conversation. "We talked mainly about the Latin American political situation," the governor said. Castro said later that he was satisfied with Bahia's hospitality and that he was in no hurry to return to Havana. He said: "I am not feeling too homesick." He did not say when he would return to Cuba. No official agenda of Castro's activities in Bahia has been released.

The dinner, which was attended by politicians and journalists, included Bahia fish stew, shrimp stew, manioc meal, and amaranth. Castro tried almost everything and said he liked very much a dish of manioc meal and palm oil. Seeing him off, the governor gave Castro a bag of manioc meal and another of tapioca.

Court Cancels Parana State Governor Mandate

PY2007202093 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 18 Jul 93 p 9

[Text] Curitiba—The Regional Electoral Court's cancellation yesterday of Governor Roberto Requiao's mandate on charges of electoral fraud has forced the state government to disseminate an official note making clear that the measure is provisional.

"The Regional Electoral Court decision to cancel Governor Roberto Requiao's mandate is provisional. It is a regional court decision that will be contested at higher courts in Brasilia. Requiao's continuation in the government is assured through a petition to suspend the decision.

"The government program to emphasize priority programs of economic development with social justice will continue. The government will also maintain all measures to implement austerity, a rigorous fight on corruption, and unyielding defense for the higher interests of the people of Parana.

"Roberto Requiao became the most famous Brazilian Democratic Movement Party governor in the country because of his government style. He enjoys one of the highest rates of approval in the country. The majority of the Parana people elected him and continue to firmly support Governor Requiao's courage, firmness, honesty, and efficiency. In Parana State, Brazil continues to be great."

Chile

Expert Pessimistic About Quick NAFTA Entry, Foxley Comments

PY2107012193 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 15 Jul 93 pp A1, A11

[Excerpts] Dr. Rudiger Dornbush, an international expert with an economics degree, who is visiting our country, yesterday stressed that there is no hurry in the United States to extend the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) to Latin America and that there are no possibilities of Chile joining it in the short term.

The expert, who is a professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology [preceding four words in English] and an adviser to the IMF, the World Bank, and the United Nations, made these remarks during a lecture at the "Chile and World Trends in Economic Development" seminar, sponsored by Cides [expansion unknown].

In Dornbush's opinion, no one in the United States has pointed out when Chile would join NAFTA, despite the fact that President Bill Clinton recently said Chile would be the next country to join it, after Mexico. [passage omitted]

Minister Foxley

Concerning Dornbush's remarks, Finance Minister Alejandro Foxley believes NAFTA will finally be approved by the U.S. Congress. He said: "If there is an offer for Chile to join NAFTA via negotiations with the United States or third countries, we will not dismiss such an offer in any way. Moreover, we will actively work on it."

Regarding the possibility that the United States will weaken and extend these agreements to other countries, he indicated that in the first place it is not up to a sovereign state to believe that he who has made a trade offer will not comply with it.

He recalled that the United States, through former President Bush, made an offer of a free trade agreement to the entire hemisphere and that Chile was the first country to take up that offer. President Clinton reaffirmed this commitment afterward in two letters to President Aylwin.

And Foxley indicated that in the eventuality that this offer was complied with, then the problem does not reside with the country that accepted it, but with the country that made it. And if this happens, then it will be read in Latin America as an extremely negative signal regarding the strategic definition of the United States with respect to the world as a whole.

He also indicated that it would not be very logical to take up the opportunity for NAFTA and not carry out other plans that may be more interesting for Chile, such as the Asian and Pacific areas. He reiterated our country's interest in becoming a member of APEC [expansion

unknown] in order to submit from within the need of extending that agreement to other countries such as Australia and New Zealand.

In this respect, he stated that Chile has tried to continue a policy of a greater unilateral opening in the trade sector (it reduced its tariffs from 15 to 11 percent), in financial flows, and in financial integration; it has loosened the rules for foreign investment and is negotiating double tax treaties, among others.

In addition, he indicated that the country has been implementing a strategy of diversification regarding the exploring and negotiation of agreements, such as those dealing with economic complementation (with Argentina and Bolivia) or those dealing with free trade (with Mexico and Venezuela), and we are going to complete an agreement with Brazil this year.

National Prison Police Building in Santiago Attacked

PY2007202293 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Imagen Internacional in Spanish 1800 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Serious damage was the result of an extremist attack this morning on a National Prison Police building in Santiago.

The subversive attack occurred at 0800 today at a National Prison Police building at the intersection of Carmen Street and Mata Avenue.

Two unidentified individuals fired submachine guns and threw three bombs, of which only one exploded, from two moving vehicles.

One officer experienced acoustic shock and at least 50 bullets hit the building where the National Prison Police Security Department operates. National Prison Police Director Claudio Martinez believes the attack comes in reprisal for the discovery of the largest tunnel in the National Prison Police's history at the Santiago Penitentiary last week.

The criminals left Lautaro Front pamphlets near the building. One of the vehicles used in the attack was found a few minutes later.

Government Objectives 'Fulfilled' With Escobar Departure

PY2007142193 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Imagen Internacional in Spanish 0100 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Interior Minister Enrique Krauss said today that the government's objective had been fulfilled with the departure of the Escobar family. He added that the police of other countries have been alerted of the Escobar family's trip to Europe.

[Begin recording] [Krauss] The objective that we had been seeking since the first decisions were made, aimed at making them leave the country voluntarily as they did today, has been fulfilled. Otherwise, if they had not desisted in their demands, they would have been expelled. The interests of the executive branch, which were supported by the resolutions of the Santiago Court of Appeals, have therefore been fulfilled in the sense that we were making a just and perfectly legitimate use of the current regulations.

[Unidentified reporter] Will the Spanish police be informed if the flight goes to Madrid?

[Krauss] We report to all the police. The Investigative Police are part of Interpol, and naturally they provide information to all interested police. [end recording]

Escobar Family Stays in Germany, Not Allowed To Return

PY2107020993 Santiago Radio Cooperativa Network in Spanish 2300 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Interior Ministry Under Secretary Belisario Velasco confirmed today the reports from Germany that Nicolas Escobar Urquijo and his family have been temporarily allowed to stay in Germany. Velasco talked about this issue with the press in La Moneda Palace:

[Begin recording] According to a report received from our embassy in Germany today, the group of Colombians headed by Nicolas Escobar Urquijo arrived in Frankfurt and they were allowed by local officials to get off the airplane and temporarily remain in that country. Regarding the time and conditions for their stay, that is something that is up to German officials to establish. [end recording]

He also was asked about the possibility that Escobar Urquijo and his family might return again to Chile:

[Begin recording] There is an order prohibiting their return to the national territory. Regarding the time they will remain in Germany, I really do not know because it is up to the German officials to establish the time and conditions for their stay in Germany. [end recording]

Therefore, Nicolas Escobar Urquijo and his family will not be able to return to Chile, according to the announcement made by Belisario Velasco.

* Pension Fund Savings Levels Drop in Sep-Mar Period

93SM0327C Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 16 Jun 93 pp B1, B20

[Text] A decline of 9 percent in the amount of savings deposited in voluntary-type accounts of Pension Fund Administrators (AFP) was registered during the six-month period up to the end of March.

This reduction took place despite an increase of 8.6 percent in the number of voluntary-type savings accounts during the same period among the 19 AFP's that make up the system.

While the total accumulated in the system's voluntary accounts at the end of the first trimester was 87.598 billion pesos, six months earlier the figure had reached 96.3456 billion pesos.

These changes are attributable to lower yields from this type of investment during recent months, as opposed to the higher yields obtained during former periods, principally due to returns generated by stock investments.

According to the Superintendency of the AFP's, 10.002 billion pesos left the system in March alone, after registering 88,207 withdrawals for an average amount of 113,000 pesos.

Meanwhile, the level of deposits in March was low, amounting to 6.1399 billion pesos. During the month, 347,806 deposits were made for average amounts of 17,000 pesos.

The withdrawal of savings that the system's affiliates have experienced since the so-called "two accounts" has taken place in circumstances that, on the other hand, have seen the number of voluntary accounts increase from 556,684 at the end of September 1992 to 615,723 at the end of March 1993.

The AFP that had the largest number of savings accounts at the end of March 1993 was AFP Provida with 180,744 accounts, and in which total savings were 11.88 billion pesos.

Meanwhile, the AFP with the greatest amount of savings at the end of the third quarter of 1993 was AFP Cuprun, with a total of 18.3295 billion pesos. In this instance the number of active savings accounts reached 36,445.

With regard to the outflow of savings from these voluntary accounts, the Association of Pension Funds Administrators asked that the operations of the funds be modified to avoid "their being used for speculation."

In that connection, it said that "given the way in which shares in the fund's portfolio are valued, every time there is an upward or downward adjustment in the share price, the value of the pension fund quotations will, with relative certainty, be temporarily undervalued or overvalued for 10 days.

In this situation, it pointed out, "this can cause the withdrawal of great volumes of savings which, aside from causing large transfers of wealth from the majority of members to a small number of well-informed investors, significantly raises the cost of providing this service."

To deal with this situation, the association proposed to make effective the cancellation of withdrawals of more than 50 UF [expansion not available] only 12 days after the date on which they were requested, and at the value of the quotation on that date. It also requested that, for the opening of the account, a minimum of six previous quotations be required, which could only be applied to self-employed workers.

* Economy Minister Views Visit to Russia, Scandinavia

93SM0327B Santiago LA NACION in Spanish 8 Jun 93 p 15

[Article by Alejandra Costamagna]

[Text] Potential commercial negotiations between Chile and Russia are of "limited reach," and medium-sized Chilean enterprises have the best opportunity to do business with the emerging Russian private sector. The Minister of Economy, Jorge Marshall, so stated yesterday when he described a positive economic balance of the trip taken by government and business leaders to the former USSR and to Scandinavian countries.

He explained that the "limited reach" is because Russia's economy works within a medium-term framework and that the important sectors of traditional industry are a cluster of state enterprises "where the main theme is not growth at the national level or investments, but the definition of property rights."

Because of this internal concern of a "domestic" rather than a commercial nature, there is not much room for cooperation, "as long as the question of property rights is not resolved and clear mechanisms are not established so that these businesses can function"' the minister explained. Nevertheless, he said that during the visit some business was accomplished, but of a minor nature.

Marshall said that Russia has great production potential, which is why he explained the process of integration in Latin America to some businessmen, "so that they can develop an investment strategy not only with respect to Chile, but for all Latin America." As an example, he cited the automotive sector, in which Chile could become a good candidate to consolidate this market.

Referring to the area of government, Minister for Economy Marshall emphasized that the main subject of talks was the package of economic reforms that the Russian government is trying to develop, which involves the creation of new institutions. He also stated that the Russian authorities showed interest in exchange and cooperation for such activities as pension funds, health care institutions, and growth of the financial market.

He also stressed the importance of the agreement to maintain strategies of closer cooperation between the two governments in the economic area and advanced the possibility of establishing an investment agreement as well as continuing to further commercial prospects.

Marshall announced the visit to our country in July of a Russian business delegation, and the subsequent invitation to the Russian vice prime minister to visit the International Fair in Santiago (FISA) in October. "Our desire is to form significant business connections and that the government maintain the pace toward expanding cooperation, consistent with the growth in relations to be established at the entrepreneurial level," said Marshall.

As to the visit to Sweden, Finland, Denmark, and Norway, the secretary of state said that these are countries with areas of production that are traditionally competitive with Chile, such as forestry and fish products. "Our aim was to seek contacts for additional cooperation in improved processing of products," Marshall said. Referring to fishing resources, he said that those nations sell their products for three to four dollars per kg, while Chile does not even manage to sell hers for one dollar per kg, which makes it necessary "to become familiar with their technology, and the full range of their products." He said that possibilities for cooperation are to be found mainly in the areas of technology, marketing, and joint ventures.

A second important aspect of the Scandinavian trip was the analysis of ways to market specific Chilean products, such as apples, forestry products, and fish products. Marshall stressed the fact that the message to these countries was: "Our future in the economic field is for greater cooperation," which gives special importance to agreements for the protection and promotion of investments.

The secretary of state pointed out that the visit improved the image of the country overseas "which is very important from the point of view of business presence," made known the Chilean economic reality, and helped to become familiar at first hand with the European situation.

He said that some of these countries are in the midst of an economic downturn or in a crisis, "which required from our side a different attitude than the traditional one." In this sense, the strategy aimed not only at selling our products but at establishing mechanisms for Chilean participation and inclusion in these markets, said Marshall.

* Defense Minister on Military Industry, Chemical Weapons

93SM0327A Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 18 Jun 93 pp C1, C4

["Exclusive" interview with Defense Minister Patricio Rojas by Gabriel Gonzalez Segovia; place and date not given]

[Text] Defense Minister Patricio Rojas flatly denied that our country possesses products that could be used in a "chemical war."

The disclosure was made during an exclusive interview granted to EL MERCURIO, during the course of which his opinion was also asked regarding the possibility that the Chilean chemist Eugenio Berrios, involved in an obscure situation in Uruguay, might have participated in the production of Sarin gas during his employment with the former DINA [National Intelligence Directorate].

[Gonzalez] Do you have any prior indications of the alleged participation of Eugenio Berrios in the manufacture of Sarin gas?

[Rojas] No. Speaking officially, I say no. There might be something at the Talagante Chemical Complex, but only the chemical component of the Rayo rocket is produced there, along with some other more conventional "things."

This process could obviously be carried out in a very simple laboratory and it could have taken place for some undefined purpose, but it cannot be identified as an institutional project of the Army, under any circumstance.

[Gonzalez] Does Chile have chemical weapons?

[Rojas] We do not have chemical or toxic weapons. Besides, we have an international commitment that prohibits their use, sale, transportation, etc. It was signed by the foreign ministers of Chile, Argentina, and Brazil.

Minister Rojas declined to answer questions regarding the unusual troop movements that took place on 28 May 1993 and the confinement of troops to their barracks that same day, since he had already discussed that matter with the press at La Moneda, after the crisis.

The secretary of state pointed out that the kidnapping of Eugenio Berrios had not been charged in Uruguay, when asked about the alleged disappearance of the Chilean chemist.

Rojas indicated that he was waiting to learn whether the kidnapping had really taken place, "because," as he put it, it could have been "something else..." without explaining further.

In reply to a question, he said that his own ministry "is gathering information about an eventual or presumed participation of Chilean military personnel in the events that occurred in Uruguay" and that these investigations continue.

[Gonzalez] In your opinion, did a kidnapping occur?

[Rojas] In that regard I want to say that I do not care to make premature statements, but we must wait for the Uruguayan authorities to say whether a crime such as that which has been mentioned—kidnapping—took place. It could involve something else. It could involve another person or other conditions of residency of these persons in Uruguay or elsewhere. I do not want to say more.

[Gonzalez] Minister Edgardo Boeninger said that no leniency is exercised in trials of military personnel who are accused of human rights violations. What is your opinion.

[Rojas] I want to make clear that no one is asking for privileges that are not appropriate and that may affect equality under the law.

Equality under existing legislation can take the form of swifter and shorter proceedings, where investigation takes less time. The president of the Supreme Court himself (Marcos Aburto) has said that a quicker way could be sought. If that could be accomplished, I believe

that we will have succeeded in our efforts for reconciliation, which have eluded us so far.

[Gonzalez] What is the outlook for the arms industry in Chile?

[Rojas] Some months ago we reviewed the situation of the three main arms factories, Asmar [Naval Docks and Yards], Enaer [National Aeronautical Enterprise] and Famae [Army Ordnance]. I believe that because of the technological and productivity development that they have achieved, they have products that have awakened the interest of foreign buyers.

Asmar has the capacity for shipbuilding and repair at the Talcahuano shipyards as well as at Valparaiso, but shipbuilding can be provided outside Chile as well. The fact is that we have made offers in the Mauritius Islands, Malaysia, and in Latin American countries which have aroused interest. The shipyards have the potential to develop surface vessels or submarines, in the latter case the capability of overhauling submarines which the Navy has at present. The maintenance of Chilean Navy vessels is very important for our technological capacity, but we can also export our capability for engineering, development, design, and construction in any of its forms; from finished products to spare parts; join with other shipyards; propose "joint ventures," etc.

Asmar is able to produce patrol boats, which are of interest to some Asian and Latin American countries. It should be recalled that Asmar built the Aquiles of more than 3,000 tons.

The National Aeronautical Enterprise has the potential to build Pillan and Nancu aircraft.

The former is used for pilot training and the latter for sports aviation, which has already reached the market in numbers sufficient for any buyer and at prices interesting to the American Air Forces and the countries of Asia. It also has technical maintenance and servicing of the best quality through agreements with Lockheed, for example.

Famae, on the other hand, produces conventional weaponry and other systems that might be of interest to foreign countries.

[Gonzalez] How is business in the world armaments market?

[Rojas] At present there is an excess of supply in the arms industry, for training purposes as well as for combat purposes, or for products for peacetime. Markets are very competitive and everyone is looking for potential buyers. When it comes time to buy, development, engineering, production, and cost possibilities are evaluated, but if there is no additional financing by the seller, then it can be very difficult to close the deal because buyers sometimes have limited funds when they represent countries with scarce resources. Then a formula must be sought.

In Europe, there are "soft credits" and various sources of mixed financing. Some from government to government or in the banking system, which authorizes preferential interest rates.

[Gonzalez] What are the lines of credit to encourage the export of defense items?

[Rojas] In Chile a search for resources was carried out in Corfo [Production Development Corporation] and in the State Bank and it is very satisfying to say that I found a positive response in both institutions and their respective boards of directors. Both institutions have placed lines of credit at the disposition of the arms factories and of all the state enterprises that have important features.

The credits will finance up to 85 percent of the value of the export of capital goods or engineering and assembly services. Financing is in dollars at a rate which is agreed upon by the contractor and the borrower. Interest can be set at the LIBOR [London Interbank Offered Rate] floating rate, which today is low, or at a fixed rate. Corfo dictates the interest for each service periodically. Financing takes the form of loans in dollars which Corfo deposits in the banks within any of the term options from one to 10 months. Credits can be granted for 10 years in the case of Corfo and up to five years for the state bank and can be authorized to finance up to 85 percent of the value of the exported capital goods, durable consumer goods, and engineering or assembly services. These goods must have at least a 25 percent domestic component, which is easily attainable since products from our factories have a higher proportion of national component than that standard.

He said that there may be a grace period of not more than a year and that, generally, there is no limit on principle, so that there may be operations from one to tens of millions of dollars, which varies according to the sale each military factory is able to negotiate.

He added that the Chilean military industry's development is graduated and that, when there are contracts, the part that will further the agreement is developed. And if a residue of "know how" and technical capacity remains, this is useful for the future and is held as reserve capacity.

To have a military factory in a country the size of Chile does not mean technological autonomy for the Armed Forces. Our basic equipment does not come from our factories, but is of foreign manufacture.

[Gonzalez] It has been said more than once that the United States does not allow defense industries in Latin America to flourish.

[Rojas] The United States does not determine Chilean defense policy, but we do cooperate, because much of our most basic equipment comes from the United States.

[Gonzalez] Is it true that some of the overseas sales of Famae have come to a halt?

[Rojas] They have not ceased because of any blockage of licenses. There was the case of a few small shipments of items intended for export, but we have to be extremely careful with what we call the certificate of final use. This is a requirement that all countries have. And even more so in Chile because of the strict observance we follow with countries under embargo by UN resolution. When there is an embargo, all UN member countries have to ensure that it is carried out. And this depends on the certificate of final use that the buyer must submit, so that the weapons will not be transferred to third countries without the knowledge and authorization of the manufacturer.

* Extent, Effects of Software Piracy Viewed

93SM0327D Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 15 Jun 93 p B12

[Text] The Association of Software Distributors (ADS) announced that tax evasion as a result of the illegal copying of computer programs amounts to US$21.5 million to date.

This was reported by the organization's president, Alfredo Barriga, who pointed out that with these resources, the state could have built 8,623 basic dwellings, educated 28,742 children, or awarded 371,000 food grants.

The executive said during a press conference that since 1987, ADS has conducted a campaign aimed at protecting the intellectual property of the country's software companies. Because of this effort, he said, the rate of piracy in the market has fallen by 73 percent.

Nevertheless, he continued, illegal copies still play an important role in the industry. According to the Association's studies, of the total of potential sales in the domestic market in 1992, which amounted to $78 million, only $21 million worth were marketed by authorized producers and distributors.

In this situation, Barriga explained, since 1988 to date the losses to established companies are estimated at $194.5 million. This figure was obtained, he said, by comparing the number of computers that entered the country with the minimum amount of software they need in order to operate.

"Not only are the distributors affected by illegal copying but the entire country, as the state is deprived of an important amount of resources because fewer taxes are collected due to this practice," he said.

According to the executive, since 1988, when the law on intellectual property was modified, about 300 large firms have been inspected, 70 percent of which were using pirated software and had to regularize their situation.

In the case of those who use programs in their homes, ADS estimates that 90 percent use illegal copies.

The penalties facing those who violate the law range from fines of five to 50 UTM [monthly tax units], to imprisonment for 61 to 541 days.

He explained that the types of software most often copied are computation programs, operating systems, and word processors.

Alfredo Barriga said that the only way to reduce the indices of piracy in the country, which are very similar to those of other countries in the region, is for users to understand the advantages of using original programs.

Among them, he mentioned the availability of technical support, the guarantee against virus contagion and access to favorable prices.

The executive said that software exports would increase if domestic producers could rely on effective protection.

Finally, he announced the establishment of a special telephone number (242-9684) that will be available to persons who wish to report the use of illegal programs.

Software Piracy

Losses to Distributors (in millions of US$)	
1988	32.1
1989	26.15
1990	34.95
1991	44.55
1992	56.75
1988 to date	194.5

Colombia

Defense Minister Rules Out Peace Talks With Guerrillas

PA2007192993 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1813 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Independence Day is being commemorated today in Santa Fe de Bogota with a great military parade. Five thousand Armed Forces members are now participating in the Independence Day Parade.

President Cesar Gaviria Trujillo, Defense Minister Rafael Pardo, and Armed Forces Commander General Ramon Emilio Gil are presiding over the parade.

Eight Army, Air Force, and Navy generals have been decorated with the Boyaca Cross in the degree of Great Officer for their actions in these six months of war against the rebels.

Defense Minister Rafael Pardo stated today that the government will not accept peace talks with the guerrillas under any circumstances.

[Begin Pardo recording] With actions such as the kidnapping and murder of San Jacinto priest Cirujano, the guerrillas are not demonstrating that they want peace. [end recording]

Guerrilla Leaders Captured, Killed in Clashes With Army

PA2007195493 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1700 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Text] Mobile Brigade No. 1 has captured the Army of National Liberation finance chief in Santander. In addition, the third in command of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia's [FARC] 33d Front was killed in a clash with special counterguerrilla commando units while he was attempting to blow up the Cano Limon-Covenas oil pipeline on the outskirts of Tarra Municipality in Norte de Santander.

The finance chief of the Popular Liberation Army's Libardo Moratoro Front was also captured by Mobile Brigade No. 2 during search and control operations in the northeastern part of the country. Here is what General Agustin Ardila said:

[Begin Ardila recording] This is very important because a councilman and 10 members of the urban network have been captured. These subversives have been placed in the custody of the regional prosecutor. [end recording]

General Ardila assured that combing operations in search of guerrilla groups operating in northern Colombia have been stepped up in the past days after intelligence units were able to confirm the rebels' plans to carry out a military offensive against the power infrastructure.

Paraguay

Senate Authorizes U.S. Planes' Entry After 'Arduous Debate'

PY2007201093 Asuncion NOTICIAS in Spanish 16 Jul 93 p 7

[Text] After an arduous debate on the apparent contradictions in two constitutional articles regarding the Senate's authority to approve the entry of foreign troops into the country, this chamber yesterday authorized the entry of two U.S. Air Force planes to verify possible drug-trafficking routes from 21 to 24 July, a period of four days.

The issue was not part of the day's agenda, but was discussed by the plenum directly due to the short time available for a decision. The two committees handling the issue recommended the approval of the measure, but doubts over the Senate's authority to decide on the matter provoked real confusion. In effect, Item C, Article 183 of the Constitution says that one of Congress' prerogatives is to authorize the entry of foreign troops into the country. Item 5 of Article 224, however, grants the Senate exclusive prerogatives on the same issue.

According to Rodrigo Campos Cervera, the approval does not violate constitutional tenets—as was sustained by some senators—because another article grants the Senate such authority. He, however, proposed an in-depth study of the matter in order to define the conflict.

The debate prompted a move to postpone a decision, but the request was defeated. Various senators abstained, while Emilio Cubas Grau and Victor Sanchez Villagra voted against the proposal. Acting President Carlos Romero Pereira submitted the issue to a vote, and 26 out of the 32 senators present voted in favor.

Earlier the Senate had formed the Natural Resources Committee and the Congressional Investigating Committee on Illegal Activities. The Senate will meet in a special session on 26 July to discuss the request to abolish the law regulating the Council for Magistrates.

Wasmosy To 'Partially' Adopt Chilean Economic Model

PY2007202493 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 13 Jul 93 p 8

[Article by unidentified special correspondent from Santiago, Chile]

[Text] Paraguayan President-elect Juan Carlos Wasmosy stated here yesterday that his government will implement some of the economic measures that have yielded positive results in Chile. He met here with Chilean President Patricio Aylwin; with Eduardo Frei, presidential candidate for the Coalition of Parties for Democracy [CPPD]; and with local businessmen.

Wasmosy did not conceal his interest in partially implementing economic measures that have been instrumental in improving the standard of living in Chile. He thus mentioned the need to implement, as soon as possible, the privatization of deficit-ridden, state-owned companies, to promote a social market economy, to create conditions for foreign investments with a view to creating more jobs, and to support every initiative aimed at improving the standard of living.

Wasmosy arrived in Santiago on 11 July on a three-day private visit to Chile. Yesterday he attended a luncheon hosted by President Aylwin in his honor at La Moneda Palace.

Wasmosy stated that during his term in office he hopes to consolidate the Paraguayan democratic process, and noted that Chile is a progressive, modern nation he would like to use as a model.

The Paraguayan president-elect also visited the Chile Foundation, a private institution charged with formulating development projects, which caught his attention.

Wasmosy himself announced that his visit is designed to seek opportunities for exchange and to discuss the possibility of reaching a technology transfer agreement with the Chile Foundation.

At the foundation Wasmosy met with its president, Ivan Lavados, who gave him a detailed briefing on the foundation, which since its creation in 1976, has created 31 companies.

Wasmosy was accompanied at all times by his advisers Hugo Saguier Caballero, who will be the secretary general of the presidency; and by Eduardo Venialgo, spokesman for the president-elect.

Wasmosy added that "it is practically confirmed" that Hernan Buchi, former finance minister in the Chilean military regime, will be hired as an economic adviser for his government. He noted that Buchi's role will be to monitor the Paraguayan economy "because there are always external factors that could distort or affect the implementation of our program."

Wasmosy also met with CPPD presidential candidate Eduardo Frei, and with presidential hopefuls of Chilean right-wing groups.

Wasmosy will today end the tour he started in Sao Paulo, from where he went to Washington and Mexico. He is scheduled to arrive at 1500 today at Silvio Pettirossi Airport, where he will make comments to the press on the international contacts he made during his eight-day tour of foreign countries.

President-Elect Wasmosy Returns From Foreign Tour

PY2007212993 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 14 Jul 93 p 6

[Text] Engineer Juan Carlos Wasmosy returned from an extensive tour abroad yesterday. He said he was carrying the commitment of some $800 million in aid. Regarding the Labor Code's approval, he said: "Sometimes what today appears to be beneficial is harmful in the long run."

Wasmosy yesterday returned from a tour that began in Sao Paulo and continued in Washington, Mexico, and Chile. He characterized the trip as satisfactory, adding that the political transition initiated by General Andres Rodriguez was highly valued abroad.

Wasmosy said he brought documents on an international banking commitment of $800 million for use in social development projects.

The president-elect said he will talk with Senate, Chamber of Deputies, and Supreme Court officials about an offer to strengthen those institutions, although giving no details on the aid proceeds.

Wasmosy also said he was able to entice entrepreneurs to invest in Paraguay. He promised them economic stability, legal security, abundant and cheap energy, an adaptable labor force, and an adequate social climate for investment.

At one point reporters asked him about Vice President-elect Roberto Seifart's opinion contrary to his position on reforming the Labor Code. Seifart approved the law in Congress. Wasmosy said: "The head of an enterprise is responsible for coordinating decisions in the social and economic field. The enterprise I am now heading as an entrepreneur, and let us say this within quotes, is the entire nation, the state. We should all cooperate with this endeavor, looking for what is best and most equitable for all. Sometimes what appears to be beneficial today is harmful in the long run."

Wasmosy praised Chile's advanced labor legislation. "Journalists who traveled with me have seen the reforms introduced in Chile's labor field. I will try to improve our legislation, overcoming all difficulties and always looking at the people's interest, not only at some group's interests."

Wasmosy said it is a prerogative of the current president of the Republic to veto the new Labor Code. "I cannot influence him; he (Rodriguez) is the president. I will give you my opinion on the issue after 15 August," Wasmosy said.

The president-elect said he brought back documents on the labor reality of other countries, particularly Chile, referring to union leaders' job security and the minimum salary. He promised to hand a copy of those documents to the press.

Also during the news conference, he evaded a direct answer to the question of whether he was being pressured by the ANR [National Republican Association—Colorado Party] in naming his cabinet. "I do not know if pressure is the appropriate term. But it is natural for all politicians to aspire to the highest possible position within the government. This is natural and human. Without ambitions we would not have improvements either. We will try to elect, within this context, those who are most capable for the post," Wasmosy said.

Asked if opposition leaders might be included in his government, Wasmosy said he did not see any contradiction in appointing opposition leaders. "It is not a contradiction to admit them in different ministries. They should participate in the government, but not as ministers. That is what I mean," Wasmosy concluded.

Executive Branch Vetoes 'Dangerous' New Labor Code

PY2007201493 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 20 Jul 93 p 10

[Excerpt] The Executive Branch yesterday vetoed the Labor Code on the grounds that it is "a project exhibiting a

dangerous tendency to become an ongoing source of conflict because of the leniency with which the right to strike is regulated, and the extremely careless way in which wage fixing is regulated." It further stated that "it might turn out to be highly ruinous for the country's development," and that if this were the case, it would compel us to sail into uncharted waters which, in turn, would give rise to "class struggle stemming from a totally dated ideology." It considers, moreover, that the document is inspired by "so reglementary a zeal that there is practically no room left for the possibility of entering into broad collective bargaining negotiations." The Executive Branch also warned that the bill seeks to "plunge the country into a dangerous utilization of people's own discretion." President Andres Rodriguez stated that if this decision should have some political cost, "then too bad." [Justice and Labor] Minister Oscar Paciello has announced that another bill on a labor code will be submitted to Congress by 15 August. [passage omitted]

Military Commission Members Meet With Legislators

PY2007204693 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 16 Jul 93 p 3

[Excerpt] The military chiefs who make up a special commission created to discuss with deputies the Armed Forces Organization Law met last night with Colorado Party senators at the home of Senator Juan Manuel Cano Melgarejo. Army Commander Division General Pedro Concepcion de la Cruz Ocampos and Senator Miguel Angel Gonzalez Casabianca later said that those attending the meeting discussed the implications of derogating this military law. Legislators were also informed of the meaning of the law that was recently promulgated by the executive branch.

The main military chiefs held an unscheduled surprise two-hour meeting with a select group of Colorado Party senators at the home of Senator Juan Manuel Cano Melgarejo.

Attending the meeting were Division General Mario Rodolfo Escobar Anzoategui, chief of the Armed Forces Joint General Staff; Army Commander Pedro Concepcion de la Cruz Ocampos; Air Force Commander Jose Cespedes Zarza; and Navy Commander Rear Admiral Flavio Avadie Gaona.

Gen. Ocampos said that Rear Admiral Eduardo Gonzalez Petit did not participate in the meeting because he is involved in the controversy. One of the points being questioned by opposition legislators is the position of the Military Forces Commander, the position currently held by Gonzalez Petit.

Senators Miguel Angel Gonzalez Casabianca, Emilio Cubas, Antonia Nunez de Lopez, Julio Rolando Elizeche, Juan Carlos Galaverna (who acted as spokesman), Sebastian Gonzalez Insfran, Amado Yambay, Pura Moreno, and the host attended the meeting.

This newspaper learned that the controversial Armed Forces General Organization Law was the central topic of the meeting between the high-ranking military chiefs and the legislators.

Army Commander Pedro Ocampos explained that the meeting was made possible by an invitation by Cano Melgarejo to discuss aspects relative to the spirit of the military organization law.

Ocampos said: "They (the senators) wanted to know about the organization we are proposing through this law and posed many questions which we answered as clearly as possible."

Ocampos added that all items currently questioned by deputies, such as the position of the Military Forces commander and the possibility of adjustments or changes to better organize the Armed Forces, were posed by the Colorado Party legislators.

Ocampos characterized the meeting as positive, stressing that the military commanders wished to explain the issue to legislators of all parties so as to prevent misunderstandings and to clear up all mistrust against the current military law. [passage omitted]

Peru

CCD Approves Resolution on Foreign Company Contracts

PA2107035793 Lima Global de Television Network in Spanish 0100 GMT 20 Jul 93

[Excerpt] Foreign companies that sign contracts with the Peruvian Government will be subject to Peruvian laws and its justice system, according to a resolution approved on 19 July by the Congress.

The Congress plenum cancelled the draft chapter of the Constitution on commerce with enterprises, adding its three articles to the general provisions of the Economic System Chapter. In this insert, Congress approved another addition establishing that foreign companies signing state contracts will be subject to Peruvian law and courts. In case of claims, this will prevent foreign companies from citing through diplomatic means that their own countries' regulations prevail over Peruvian law. Such a system is currently being applied against Peru. [passage omitted]

* 'Acute Internal Conflict' in Army Viewed

93SM0330A Lima IDEELE in Spanish Jun 93 p 8

[Article by Pedro Salinas: "The Regime's Untouchables"]

[Text] General Hermoza Rios, the controversial individual in uniform with the name of a singer and the antidemocratic manners, could conceive of no better notion than to publish a 17-page pamphlet entitled "Discipline and Crime—The True History," in which

he offered an apology and a justification for the coup d'etat that took place on 5 April of last year. The purpose was to besmirch and discredit the rebel military personnel involved in the 13 November events. According to this infamous libel, the events of 13 November 1992 "led the sectors opposing the government to wage an intensive journalistic campaign designed to make the public, and thus the military personnel, believe that the Army was divided...." The fact is that to state, after the series of incidents involving the military (the conspiracy by General Salinas and his followers, the trial of General Cisneros, the exile of General Arciniega, and finally, the serious charges formulated by General Rodolfo Robles) that the monolithic unity of the FFAA [Armed Forces] is stronger now than ever does not fall far short of a cruel joke.

Beyond the charge—a very serious one indeed—made by Gen. Robles concerning the existence of a group bent on annihilation and operating on the orders of the presidential adviser and the general in command of the Army, this development is further evidence of the split that has been developing within the military establishments, the Army in particular.

Despite the calming statements made by Fujimori and his government chorus, the Army is experiencing an acute internal conflict between those who stand with the Fujimori-Hermoza-Montesinos triumvirate and those who take the side of the institutions in which they serve.

The military establishment is subject to the political authority, and it has become a kind of armed support of the current regime, which is nowadays unwilling to tolerate any kind of challenge to the actions of the military leadership. As Gen. Salinas recently indicated, what has developed is "a purchase-and-sale contract between Fujimori and these individuals (Montesinos and Hermoza), who are collecting for the unconditional support given his dictatorial deeds beginning on 5 April of last year by demanding absolute impunity for their illegal activities" (LA REPUBLICA, 24 May 1993).

The implementation of the provisions promulgated to force into retirement officers who have distinguished themselves by their merit and professionalism, leaving obsequious officers as their replacements; the interference in the internal administrative procedures of the FFAA; the promotion orders, transfers, and appointments obviously intended for purposes of political expediency, rewarding those who submit and punishing those who do not—these things have become a Pandora's box from which we know not what might emerge tomorrow.

The cases involving Gen. Robles, Cisneros, Arciniega, and the officers who rebelled on 13 November all represent parts of the barrage of rockets that will keep exploding until Fujimori makes a political decision to break with those who were his tactical allies on 5 April. In practice, they are the cause of the institutional unease within the Peruvian Army, and additionally, they are responsible for the fact that the chief of state mistrusts even his own shadow, and sees conspiracies on every side.

Common sense would dictate that Fujimori should remove the pair of untouchables—Montesinos and Hermoza—from their posts. Politically, this move would constitute a triumph for the chief executive. Both his friends and his most bitter enemies would applaud this action. But, to judge from his pattern of conduct, it is unlikely that he will do this. Without these men, Fujimori is nothing.

* Shining Path Strategy, Strength Analyzed

93WR0282Z Lima IDEELE in Spanish Jun 93 pp 15-18

[Article signed I.R.P.: "Shining Path in Its 13th Year: Just Bad Luck?"—first paragraph is editor's introduction]

[Text] Thirteen years after launching its bloody venture, the Sendero Luminoso (Shining Path) has lost, probably irreversibly, the strategic perspective needed to threaten the state and to attempt the "seizure of power." The capture of its highest leader has been the determining factor in producing this radical change in the status of the domestic war. This does not mean that the movement is on the brink of definitive defeat, because, among other things, there seems to be an effort to reorganize and adapt to the new situation. However, the more time passes, the greater the losses of the movement become and the more distant its pretensions of becoming the "new regime."

On the morning of 17 May, in a gesture unusual for a government leader, President Fujimori visited the poorer quarters in an obvious attempt to break the "armed strike" of three days the Shining Path had organized. For some hours, he proceeded through areas in which a subversive presence is said to exist, encouraging the residents in their pursuit of their normal activities.

This gesture—perhaps motivated basically by the need to draw from his main source of legitimacy in order to face up to the serious political problems aggravated by the charges made by General Robles—was a symbol, in a way, of the current attitude, characterized by an aggressive approach and initiative, that has been adopted by the state in its actions with regard to subversion.

The Shining Path made preparations for and attempted to impose its "armed strike" in its characteristic style: explosions in the markets, secondary schools, and public gathering sites; some car bombs; mass transport vehicles set on fire; and sporadic attacks on the police. Its direct threats against merchants and transport personnel caused them to retreat in fear. However, the general image projected was one of weakness, and not even the

relative "success" achieved by this campaign in such localities as Puno, Ancash, Ayacucho, and Apurimac could improve it.

This image of weakness was even sharper than it was last November and January. And, of course, it is the exact opposite of the impression projected during the offensives in May and July of last year. Very little remains of the ominous "red month" the country awaited each year with apprehension because of the waves of violence to which it was subjected, and of that organization that seized the initiative and seemed to be achieving an unstoppable advance, only the memory remains.

And so the Shining Path has reached its 13th anniversary in an "orphaned" state (IDEELE No. 45) and down at the heel. It finds itself in a situation of obvious weakness that could only be denied by its kind of warlike discourse, which is increasingly remote from reality. In a recent editorial in EL DIARIO, for example, the Shining Path said: "We are living in an historic era! Our beloved president has said this. It is in this era that the Popular Liberation Army and the Popular Liberation Front, bodies that demonstrate that the siege of the city mounted from the countryside is proceeding solidly and integrally, have arisen in imposing fashion. (...) Their successful and overwhelming actions tell us that the PCP [Peruvian Communist Party] has undertaken the development of the Sixth Military Plan in its first campaign IN DEFENSE OF THE LEADERSHIP AGAINST THE GENOCIDAL DICTATORSHIP! This military plan, by demolishing the lies of the 'Senderologists' Tapia, Gonzalez, Obando, and the rotten Alberto Valencia, has raised the popular Marxist-Leninist-Maoist popular war to the highest level, with the thinking of Gonzalo. And it is today developing the Strategic Balance and preparing for the Strategic Offensive of the Revolution, in order to establish the Popular Republic of Peru, the future base of support for the World Proletarian Revolution." (EL DIARIO, No. 627)

The Guzman Effect

The 13 years of civil war, then, have left the subversives in a weakened state, while the government has opted for a counteroffensive approach. Without the slightest doubt, there has been a change in the nature of the domestic war, and the basic factor in this change has been the capture of Guzman.

The Shining Path describes the capture of its leader as merely a "nefarious procedural accident," and according to the wording of its documents, it is attempting to demonstrate that this has not changed the course of the war it is waging. The fact is, however, that this event dealt a serious strategic blow greatly hindering its accumulation of strength. Much has been written on this subject, and thus we need only recall with Gorriti that "...the strength of this organization does not lie in its muscle, but in its capacity to project an image of power greater than what it really has—an image of initiative, progress, and immunity from strategic vulnerability. This image has not only reduced the resistance outside the organization, but was the main cohesive force within it, as well. The capture of Guzman, and, even more important, his imprisonment, fired a cannon shot below the waterline of this perception." One district attorney also declared that "the movement's god has died, and the members are feeling vulnerable for the first time. And we have realized that they were vulnerable."

Let us also remember that the collapse of almost all of the Central Committee and the movement's intermediary leadership bodies has been added to the capture of Guzman. As De la Jara said, the Shining Path has been left "without its leader and without his deputies" (see IDEELE, No. 45). This has without a doubt been a blow of a strategic nature. Almost in just one single action, the movement lost what its mobilizing myth embodied—its strategic line, its commander and leadership, and those who were responsible for executing its plans.

The Other Effects

Now then, the determining effects of the capture, which changed the balance of forces in the civil war, have been strengthened by the effects produced by the military counteroffensive launched by the state prior to Guzman's capture. They include the loss of territorial influence, the blows dealt to the organic structure, and an apparent loss of operational capacity.

In connection with the first of these effects, the Shining Path is falling back in various areas of the country. Its national presence grew visibly in direct relation to the periods in which violence reached its highest levels. In Alto Huallaga, the Central Forest, such traditional zones as Ayacucho, Apurimac, and Huancavelica, and in Puno, in the south, violence increased steadily in intensity. The plan for the siege of the capital could clearly be seen. The Shining Path moved forward to positions in the valley of the Montaro and in North and South Chico, near Lima, as well as in such areas as Pasco, Ancash, and Ica.

Two factors changed this picture. On the one hand, there was the counteroffensive of the Armed Forces, which returned to the strategy of using civil defense patrols beginning in 1990, promoting and disseminating throughout the rural sector the experience acquired in certain rural areas in the voluntary organization of the population. And beginning in 1991, the Armed Forces undertook military operations to "recover critical areas," focusing attention on the zones that were in practice controlled by the Shining Path. On the other hand, the movement transferred its best cadres to Lima because of the need to "move the focus of the war to the city," a step taken in response to the "defeat in the rural sector," according to some sources. This was a strategic error in the eyes of some critics, while others saw it as an unusual success for Guzman, but it left the movement vulnerable to harsh blows.

At present, the Alto Huallaga area does not appear to be a focus of conflict, although some reports insist that the bulk of the movement's forces are still located there. In

the Central Forest, positions have been abandoned, and in Ayacucho and Apurimac, the presence of the Shining Path has been reduced to the areas in which it was formerly firmly established. Repeated blows have been dealt the movement in Puno. It is known that in various Andean zones, between Ica and Huancavelica, for example, peripheral nuclei have voluntarily disbanded and their members have rejoined their communities. The most significant aspect of this process is that the "encirclement" that was being organized around Lima has virtually faded away. In the valley of the Montaro, the presence of the movement has dwindled substantially, and the same is the case in North and South Chico, as well as in the mountain provinces to the east of Lima. In the capital of the Republic itself, following a period in which the movement revealed its presence openly, it has again plunged into clandestinity.

While it is indeed true that an increase has been seen in the actions in the northern part of the country, mainly in the mountain areas of La Libertad, Piura, and Ancash, there is a general trend toward retreat and loss of control in the areas where the movement had succeeded in establishing itself.

A second factor is the effects the blows dealt have had on the organic structure of the movement. To the collapse of the highest leadership has been added the capture of presumed members of its intermediary leadership bodies, operational commands, and support organs. Between April of 1992 and April of 1993, the security forces arrested a total of 1,420 alleged subversives. During that same period, 1,214 alleged subversives were killed. General Hermoza, for his part, has stated that 10,400 terrorists have been killed and 4,300 taken into custody, but he did not specify the period of time covered.

These figures, which are probably inflated and include innocent individuals, are solely indications illustrative of the trend. Harsh blows have been dealt the Shining Path, and it finds itself at additional risk when forced to replace its losses with increasingly inexperienced cadres.

The third element might be taken from the statistical figures. In terms of attacks, the peak occurred in 1989, when there were 3,147. The figure dropped to 2,779 in 1990, to 2,144 in 1991, and to 1,968 in 1992. The largest number of victims was reported in 1990, with 3,654 deaths. This figure dropped to 3,044 in 1991, and to 2,617 in 1992. On the other hand, in comparable periods of seven and a half months prior to and after the capture of Guzman, there were 1,157 attacks, with 1,649 killed prior to this event, and 1,035 attacks, with 1,141 killed, following it. Between January and April of 1992, there were 570 attacks, with 995 victims, while the figures for the comparable period in 1993 were 361 and 514, respectively.

Thus dating from some time back, the figures have indicated a downward trend, one consolidated with the capture of Guzman. Furthermore, the actions of the movement since his capture have not had the same political impact as the earlier ones, and they have been smaller in scope. A good indicator of this is that the number of car bombs was greater (43) in the eight and a half months following the capture than in the comparable preceding period (40), yet the effects were no greater.

At the same time, it is indeed true that the numbers of attacks and deaths remain high, and that within this general downward trend, the actions of the Shining Path indicate a certain coordination, as seen in the organized waves of violence.

Taken together, the elements described justify the view that after 13 years of civil warfare, the Shining Path can be seen to lack a strategic future and to have lost its capacity to threaten the state. Its posture of strategic balance is untenable, and the remote possibility of seizing power it may once have glimpsed is more distant today than ever. Further still, this period has clearly been marked by the counteroffensive of the state.

Reorganization?

Does all of the above mean that the Shining Path is on the brink of extinction; that it is now in an inexorable process of disintegration; that there is adequate reason to believe in the repeated statements by President Fujimori to the effect that the Shining Path will be eliminated by 1995; that, as the government likes to say, the activities that are still occurring are but the flailings of a drowning man; or that, as the engineer has said, all that is needed is to eliminate a thousand terrorists who are wandering free throughout the country?

Without the slightest doubt, matters are not yet even close to this point, and an indication of this can be seen in the case of the Huaycan leader Pascuala Rosado, who was forced to leave the country because of persecution by the terrorists and the lack of any security provided by the state.

The Shining Path continues to be a threat at the social base. Apparently, the movement has maintained its internal cohesion on the basis of its strong ideological influence, and at least with regard to the operational aspects, it has reorganized its central leadership, allowing a minimal national coordination. It is with its political orientation that its problems are thought to be even greater.

Various hypotheses have been postulated in this connection. One presumes that the political axis is focused on the defense of the highest leader. This line is supported by Gorriti, when he speaks of an "implicit pact" between the Shining Path and the government. "Guzman is a de facto hostage of the government, and his welfare is implicitly linked with what the Shining Path does. From the current perspective of the movement, intensifying the war harms Guzman, while helping Guzman does harm to the war."

This hypothesis is supported by the "complete, conscious, and unconditional subjection" to Guzman accepted by the Central Committee of the Shining Path; the fact that the first campaign in its Sixth Military Plan "To Build the Conquest of Power!" has the specific slogan "In Defense of the Leadership and Against the Genocidal Dictatorship;" and the fact that the strategic guidelines adopted are those emanating from the prison.

Now then, this would presume that the levels of violence have dropped drastically, and as we have seen, this has not happened. It would also presume hegemony in the leadership nucleus closest to Abimael Guzman, which seems to be the sector to which the police and the military have dealt the most blows.

A second hypothesis presumes a future without Guzman. It is based on an ideological battle allegedly under way that involves a "revised" view of Guzman as a "leftist opportunist." This would refer to the premature launching of military clashes and urban rebellion, going against the thesis of the "prolonged war of the countryside against the city." Guzman's critics, who are said to be challenging the position of strategic balance, are presumably advocating a return to the orthodox Maoist theses that assign priority to the rural sector as the focus for the development of the "popular war," with the city being "complementary."

Some indications, although not all, can be seen as favoring this hypothesis. There has been an alleged turn toward a more "political" line in the cities, the evidence being the reduction of pressure on the neighborhood leaders, the emphasis on the work of infiltrating the popular organizations, and the effort to utilize social demands—in the field of education, for example—in the campaign of agitation against the state. Another indication would be the renewed focus on military activities, such as the campaign to recover the cadres being held in jails in the interior (success was achieved, among the various attempts, in Cusco and Huaraz), and the greater importance of the northern mountain region, where a state of emergency has been declared because of the forceful attacks by the Shining Path.

This hypothesis would presume that Guzman's "critics" enjoy a certain hegemony, and there is no evidence that this is the case. It would also presume a level of public challenge of Guzman, while only one local periodical has carried a report by an alleged intellectual critical of Guzman in Ayacucho. Thirdly, it presumes the reformulation of the strategic plans, while to date, the only ones revealed have been those laid out by Guzman.

A third hypothesis, an extreme variant of the preceding one, assumes that the cells of the Shining Path are acting on their own account and are deciding upon the best political line to be followed in their own way. This might be seen as the reason for an alleged division, of which there are signs at least among the pro-Shining Path forces in other countries. One example is the frontal attacks directed by Luis Arce Borja, the editor of EL DIARIO INTERNACIONAL, against Maximiliano Durand, who is regarded as the "chancellor" of the Shining Path. Nothing on the national scene suggests that these disputes have had any effect. However, what can indeed be noted is that EL DIARIO has "denounced" "reactionary agents" and "other individuals with dark histories, such as the alcoholics, drug addicts, and mercenaries (who) are attempting to profit from the prestige of our historic spokesman." Curiously, with reference to areas such as Huaycan, El Rimac, Barrios Altos, La Victoria, Canto Grande, and Los Olivos, where the presence of the Shining Path is recognized, what is being said is the following: "We are warning these traitors to and apostates of the Popular War and the PCP, who pretend to be 'comrades' in order to finance their vices, that they had better cease their trafficking and evil deeds."

We tend to favor a fourth hypothesis. It presumes that the debate has not ended, and that several coexisting lines have reached agreement on two basic issues. They would all confirm the "single leadership of President Gonzalo," adopt the strategic guidelines handed down from the prison, and test in practice their interpretation of the "thinking of Gonzalo." This would mean a policy involving an attempt to win time in which to undertake the strategic readaptation and reorganization of the leadership. This is a process that could lead to a "Gonzalo movement" without Gonzalo, or to a "new line of thinking." In the Marxist-Leninist-Maoist tradition, every new leadership has come to the fore on the basis of an ideological foundation. With the "thinking of Gonzalo" enthroned and his general guidelines adopted, the debate might be focused on the question of who interprets them most faithfully.

This could explain the seeming inconsistencies in the conduct of the Shining Path subversives. At the same time, it presumes a certain time lag not available to the Shining Path if it is to retain any prospect of posing a real threat to the state.

Whatever the case, there is still a rather long path to be trod before the complete defeat of the subversives can be achieved, and military strategies, while they are indeed necessary, will not suffice unless they are accompanied by overall policies.

[Box, p 17]

MRTA: The End of the Game

Last 21 May, Javier Vela Chota, third in command of the northeastern front of the MRTA [Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement], publicly forswore that organization, charging that its leaders were engaging in criminal practices and appealing to them to "surrender." With the military authorities on the Huallaga Front watching, Vela Chota burned the flag of this armed group, and, loudly proclaiming his renewed patriotism, he embraced and kissed the Peruvian flag.

This scene was a reflection of a secret process that is gnawing away at the MRTA and has been accelerated by

the repentance law, which has had devastating effects on this organization. According to reports, more than 200 members of the MRTA on its northeastern and central fronts, as well as in other operational zones, have taken advantage of this law.

One of the factors that without a doubt helps to explain this phenomenon is the capture of the organization's principal leaders. To the imprisonment of Polay, Cardenas, and others has been added the serious blow suffered with the fall of Lucero Cumpa Miranda, who apparently played a central role in the national leadership and had been entrusted with the strengthening of its northeastern front. She was captured on 1 May. In addition, the security forces are hot on the heels of Nestor Cerpa Cartolini, whose lieutenants have been captured. A second factor is the total collapse of political direction and operational capacity. In reality, the MRTA has always been the lesser partner in the subversive violence, and it has never been able to put its program forward clearly. However, this situation has recently become more acute. The actions of the MRTA have been mainly on a small scale, and those it has undertaken, such as the attack on Moyobamba on 8 January, have had no precise and understandable political goals. Finally, the forces of the state are dealing the organization harsh blows, probably based on the information obtained from those who have "repented." Military clashes in which the subversives have suffered have occurred in both San Martin and Junin.

And so, with its organic structure being battered, without a political direction, demoralized and lacking any prospects, and with defections evident, the MRTA seems to have entered into a terminal process of decomposition and disintegration. A few cells, those ideologically strongest, are probably trying to maintain their goals, while others—those that have sunk to the level of criminal practices, such as the assassination of business leader Vera Ballon and seven residents of the San Cosme hill area, are continuing to operate under the subversive banner. However, there is every indication that for the MRTA, as a future program, the game has come to an end.

Uruguay

Editorial Notes U.S. President's Strengths, Weaknesses

PY2007185493 Montevideo EL PAIS in Spanish 15 Jul 93 p 6

[Unattributed commentary: "Careless Words"]

[Text] The impression projected by President Bill Clinton during his first months as president was one of indecision, disorientation, and even weakness. He suffered serious setbacks in Congress and won victories by very slim margins. He proposed nominations lacking the political strength to back them up.

He appeared to be paying a very high price for his inexperience at the national level—a particularly sensitive and fierce internal front. It is the price paid by newcomers, and no one can avoid it.

But an unexpected President Clinton has emerged on the international front: He now appears energetic, decisive, and even threatening.

Perhaps he is trying to make people forget his domestic setbacks. Perhaps he is being overtaken by a Rambo-like mentality. Perhaps he really is. But he has surprised the world by unilaterally deciding to strike at Saddam Husayn and had missiles falling on Baghdad.

This attack and the reasons behind it appear out of proportion. The incident, which is without precedent, involved a conspiracy against a former U.S. president—allegedly planned by Iraqi secret services months ago. That situation would normally have prompted a diplomatic protest or a complaint filed at international courts, but not immediate military attack on the power center behind the plot.

Of course, the Iraqi Government, which is still under observation and subject to additional sanctions following the Persian Gulf war, must have been behind it. Bombing Baghdad was a simple show of naked power, as Bertrand Russell would have said. The same attitude, however, is not being used to punish those guilty of the atrocities in the former Yugoslavia.

Let us be benevolent and say that the episode should be interpreted as out of tune, out of place, and part of a conflict that yet to be resolved.

Much more serious, and a lot less excusable, was President Clinton's attitude when visiting the ROK.

Determined to preserve the integrity of this country against its northern neighbors, Clinton came out with a few things that sounded extremely like warmongering in an era like the present—when we witness a dangerous proliferation of nuclear weapons—which makes the quest for, and the strengthening of, a consensus necessary.

The clear threat issued by the White House resident sounded, therefore, extemporaneous: "North Koreans know that the reprisal would be immediate and overwhelming if a nuclear bomb is built or used."

Is the U.S. President determined to assume the role of world policeman?

To what point? To answer his national interests, or does he have more universal interests?

It is true that there are plenty of opportunities to correct really bad or potentially dangerous situations, however, the use of similar hard standards in other areas has not yet been announced.

All these circumstances indicate that the world situation continues to be very unstable. It is, therefore, more important than ever for responsible leaders to be prudent.

Suriname

Bouterse, Others Named in Netherlands Bribes Affair

PM2007144493 Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 14 Jul 93 pp 1, 2

[Report by Marcel Haenen: "Bouterse Named in Bribes Affair"]

[Excerpt] Rotterdam, 14 Jul—According to two businessmen arrested in the Netherlands, former Surinamese army leader Bouterse, Surinamese Central Bank President Goedschalk, and former Surinamese Airlines director A. Mungra have received millions of guilders in bribes.

According to a Finance Ministry spokesman, the Alkmaar tax inspector has given the suspects permission to put down the bribes as deductible costs. The businessmen, who were arrested by The Hague police last week for corruption and membership of a criminal organization, disclosed to the police how and to whom "agents' fees" (bribes) had to be made in order to win orders for the supply of foodstuffs, among other things, to Suriname.

In 1991 alone the Netherlands firms involved reached agreement with the Surinamese Central Purchasing Bureau for supplies of around 35-million-guilders worth of food. The invoice value was on average between 10- and 20-percent higher than the price of the goods supplied. The difference was paid out to Bouterse, Goedschalk, Mungra, and other "influential persons who could make things go smoothly," according to Mr. G. Spong, the lawyer of suspect Van B. from Zuid-Scharwoude. Part of the bribes were paid to the Surinamers in cash in the Netherlands. Deposits in bank accounts also had to be made.

Mungra has made it known that he never had dealings with the suspects. According to Mungra, there is a "misunderstanding." Mungra, against whom The Hague judiciary opened a preliminary investigation into cocaine dealing, thinks that the suspects mean Dilep Sardjoe, the treasurer of the Hindustani party [Progressive Reform Party] represented in the government. "He is a director of one of the Netherlands companies involved." Mr. G. Spong said that it is "distressing" that "from the police reports it appears that Netherlands development aid was used to provide bribes." A spokeswoman for the Development Cooperation Ministry said this morning that "as far as is known at present Suriname did not pay for these goods with development aid money." [passage omitted]